

FBIHQ FILE
100-12304

SECTION : 2

PAUL ROBESON, SR. 18

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
New York 7, New York

100-25857
LGD:PJS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

November 13, 1945

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

Director, FBI

RE: PAUL ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY

*Carlton
Winters*

Attached herewith is the original and three copies of a six page log of a conference between [redacted] and known communist "Front" leader among negroes in New York City, and a person identified to be (phonetic), as reported by Confidential Informant [redacted] on October 31, 1945. *b7c*

It will be noted that this conference concerns the appearance of PAUL ROBESON in Toronto, Canada on November 8, 10, 12, 1945. This conference concerns the efforts [redacted] to arrange for a benefit meeting of several persons in Toronto for the purpose of raising funds for the Council of African Affairs, a "Front" organization in which MAX YERGAN and PAUL ROBESON are the leaders. The receipts for this meeting are, according to the informant, to be split between an organization in Toronto of which [redacted] is a member and the Council of African Affairs.

Very truly yours,

COPIES DESTROYED *5-1-58*
12-18

cc: 100-19377
100-26011

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES E. CONROY, SAC
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF [redacted]
DATE [redacted]

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

100-12304-36

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DECLASSIFIED BY *6080 YLR*

MAY 14 1977

58 NOV 28 1945

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CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RSC/LUN
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 11/21/90

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

OUTGOING

October 31, 1945
12:40 P:M.TO:
FROM:

Phone number

Hello,
Yes.Did you get a letter from, a Special Delivery letter from the
Council on African Affairs...
No.We sent it Airmail Special yesterday, and I waited late to call
hoping that you had it. Well here's the matter..This is
calling, do you know me?
No, I know of you..Well, I've just been talking with Paul Robeson, who's Chairman
of our Council here, with regard to his visit to Montreal...
to Toronto shortly...to be there on the 10th, 11th and 12th..
(ind.)I'll give you the date, it will be November 8th..
8th...8th, 10th, 12th....
(ind.)CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RSG/CUM
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 11/21/90Yes..Now his schedule this year is a very heavy one and he isn't
doing anything much on the outside. He plans not to take on a
single responsibility within this period..of these concerts, you
see. But, he did say to me yesterday that on the evening of the
12th, after the concert, if we could arrange it, he would do what
he did down here for us. Now here's what he did. Paul has just
come back from Europe, he has a very real conviction about the
existing spirit and leadership of Nazism, as it expresses itself
in London, as it expresses itself in the antiSoviet bloc and
as it is expressed..itself in the campaign against minorities
here, against both, against various minorities. And he partic-
ularly is aware of the antiSemitic aspect of this. Now we had
a very fine meeting here, with Paul, a sort of an off the record
meeting, held in his home and Paul told his message, and we
have succeeded in getting him on the radio. He's been, you've
heard him on the Herald Tribune broadcast, Monday?
I did.COPIES DESTROYED 5-1-12
R-12

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Well that's our first step toward getting a regular radio set-up for him, to say definitely the things he has on his mind. The people were sort of hand-picked and they were specially invited and we raised a considerable sum of money that way. Many of the, most of the people present were told of this beforehand and we got a hundred dollars out of practically each one of them. We made several thousand dollars. Now we thought of organizations in Toronto, with which we would like to do this cooperatively, if such a thing, if they considered it possible, and that's why we called on you....find out if you would like to join with the Council, the Council on African Affairs, of which Paul is the Chairman, and arrange the night of the 12th, either in a large home, if you could get such a place, or in a hotel room. Hotel room would make possible more people, the home on the other hand would give another atmosphere. And beforehand, by personal invitation, invite the people who would respond to this sort of appeal, this sort of message. They could be given some indication of the contribution that they would make. It would be for your Council and the Council on African Affairs. You could indicate what the Council on African Affairs has in mind, mainly getting Paul on the radio..this is a sum that we are raising for a radio project, you see. We would be willing if necessary to send from our branch down here a person who has had some experience in doing this sort of thing. But only in the event it is necessary, because it would be senseless sending her up there.....

Have you a Branch here in Toronto?

No, we haven't a branch, we have some friends there, but we have no active branch...

Well, I'll tell you what, it sounds like an excellent idea and I'm quite sure we can carry it through...

Uh-huh

But I would like to invite the people that you know....

Yeah..

....here, who could help us on working the thing out...

Yeah

Because we're in the midst of preparation for a big Conference and I think this would be an important sidelight to it, you know..

When will your Conference be on...

November 23, 24, 25....

Yeah, well now this would be on the evening of the 12th...

That's right...

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

After the Concert...

Yeah

You see, it could take the form of a reception. It would have to answer all the requests that will be on Paul up there.

Yeah

Because he isn't going to do another thing, you see..

Yeah

That means you'd be in a position to involve those people who would want to get with Paul socially and otherwise...

That's right...

And our view is that a real...you could make a very real success of the thing...

Yeah

Now we would share the proceeds...

Yeah

There would be an equal sharing of the proceeds, you see, between your organization and the Council on African Affairs...

Yes...

Now you respond to it right off, is that it?

Oh, yeah...

Well, I thought you would..I think it can be made a very successful affair...

Oh yes, I have quite a few people in mind....

You'll have a letter...you should have the letter today...we sent it Airmail Special last night...yesterday...

Uh-huh

You'll have a letter this morning, which gives you some of the details that I have given you....

Uh-huh

If you're prepared now to say that..that there's agreement on it, we'd then work out a somewhat more detailed statement for you and send up....

Well, would you do that?

Yes, we'll work out a somewhat more detailed statement, giving such facts as I have given and giving you the benefit of our experience here...

Good

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

And perhaps you'd let us know whether you'd want someone to be sent up there from here...
I don't think it would be necessary, I think we could, especially if you have, know a few people, if you have a few people here...who you think might come in on this thing...

Yeah...

Because naturally we have access to a lot of people...

Yes

I mean people that could be invited...

Well now look here....I should make this clear...On the basis of what has just been said, we'd have to leave it then, almost entirely, to you to organize and carry through, giving such help as we can give from this end, if you don't think its necessary for someone to come up there from here...
Well it might be, But I think we could see how the thing goes...

Yeah

If it...I'm telling you that it would be a tremendous help if somebody would come...

Yeah

But I can understand that, I mean it would cost money...

Yeah

And if it can be avoided it should be...

That's all the more desirable...

But if I can get a few people here that you know....

Yeah

And involve them in helping us in arranging the thing...

Well, I could do that I think...I could send you a few names at any rate...

Uh-huh

We keep down the expense of it, if its held in someone's home...
That's right...

You'd serve just some light refreshments, drinks and so forth...
That's right, I have a home in mind, its quite a large one, the owner is a wealthy patron of our Council...

Yes, well that the sort of thing, you see...

I am sure she would do it...

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Yeah, all right then, we'll consider this as settled...
Yes.

I'll...I discussed it with Paul yesterday...
Uh-huh

And he's agreeable to it...
Good...

And we'll work out a statement and send it to you. I perhaps
would come up there, maybe on that day...
Uh-huh

I'd have to be with Paul on, with regard to some other matters
anyway...
Uh-huh

And the chances are that I would come up on the day, on the
evening of the affair, you see..
That would be swell....

And before that we would be of any help possible...
Oh, that would be good...

I think this can be made a very successful affair, both from
the point of view of the issues....
That's right...

...before us, and from the point of view of raising money....
That's right...

..your Council needs it, and ours does too. We're, this
particular radio project and some other things that we're doing,
require it now and Paul is giving himself occassionally to this
sort of thing. The chances are he wouldn't sing, he'd be too
tired, but people wouldn't be expecting him to..
That's right...

But he would talk, you see, and that's the point to be
emphasized. I _____ (ind.) that it would have to be planned
and the list of people whom you are going to approach, they
have to be seen personally or by phone. We could do this,
we could send a note from here on Paul's behalf, you see, if
we could get the names of the people whom you will invite...
That could be done....

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Now all right, we'll put all of this in a letter today and
get it off to you..
Swell and any names that you might think of would be helpful

Okay
Okay, thanks a lot for calling...

Not at all...
All right...

Goodbye.

END

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XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET3

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Bureau file 100-12304-37 (page 1, 2 and enclosure 1)

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31537

SAC, New York

December 6, 1945

John Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

PAUL ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

For your information and the completion of your files there is attached herewith one copy of a self-explanatory communication received from the [REDACTED] under date of November 26, 1945.

b1

Enclosure

C

11/21/80
CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RSG/CLK
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 3
DATE OF REVIEW 11/21/90

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
100-12304 - 37
DEC 6 - 1945 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: February 13, 1946

FROM : SAC, SEATTLE

SUBJECT: PAUL ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C*Paul Robeson*

There is attached herewith a newspaper clipping which appeared in the Seattle STAR, Seattle, Wash., on February 12, 1946, concerning an interview with the subject during his recent appearance in Seattle.

It is interesting to note that ROBESON remarked that his son, PAUL, JR., was educated from his 8th to his 13th year in Russia, and that his son is definitely the product of Soviet education. It is further interesting to note that he states that his son's ambition is to reach the higher realms of electronics and research physics during his attendance at Cornell University.

The above is forwarded for the Bureau's interest.

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100-12304-38

23 FEB 19 1946

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EX-133

LAD:GMR
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Enclosure: Clipping from STAR

52 MAR 4

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Robeson Praises Seattle On Attitude Toward Race

BY DWIGHT SCHEAR

Seattle is one of the healthier sections of the country in its racial attitudes, Paul Robeson, great Negro star of the theater and the concert stage, said in his Olympic hotel room today.

"It is one of my happier cities to visit."

The world renowned performer is here for a concert under the auspices of the Associated Women Students of the University of Washington at 8:30 o'clock this evening in Meany hall.

Robeson's fabulous career, begun at Rutgers university where he was an All-American and a Phi Beta Kappa, has carried him to the top of the musical and theatrical world and was climaxed by his recent smash hit as Othello in a two-year revival of the Shakespearean tragedy.

Tones Confident

Robeson, speaking in the confident, deep and rolling tones which give him a stage personality even in a hotel room, thundered against the popular theory that Negroes are outstanding only in certain fields.

When a member of his race breaks the ice in any one field, immediately a host of other Negroes rises to prominence in that realm, he pointed out.

Which brings him to his favorite subject, his son, Paul Jr., a football, track and scholastic ace at Cornell university, whose ambition it is to reach the higher realms of electronics and research physics.

Comment Evoked

Paul Jr. was educated from his eighth to 13th year in Russia, his consignment there causing a storm of comment in this country at the time.

"My son is definitely the product of Soviet education," Robeson said. "I am well satisfied. The Russian standards are extremely high."

Following his university concert tonight, Robeson will leave Seattle briefly, to return for a concert at the Moore theater, February 22, and to address a meeting under the sponsorship of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee committee in the Civic auditorium, February 24.

Undecided as to future plans, Robeson is toying with making a

film of Othello—in London.

"Hollywood would butcher it," he said.

THE SEATTLE STAR
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON
FEB 12 1946

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, St. Louis

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY OF MISSOURI
District #21, St. Louis Field Division
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

DATE: February 12, 1946

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

This is to advise that on [REDACTED]
whose identity is known to the Bureau, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] LIDEAH LOCKHARTE advised informant that she knew ROBESON personally and stated he was a member of the Communist Party. She advised that on July 26, 1942 in Hastings, Nebraska, a photograph was taken of PAUL ROBESON with his arms around LIDEAH LOCKHARTE's two sons. She stated that she and seven other Party members in that community had attended one of his concerts there and that he had met with the members of the Party after the concert, telling them that he was always glad to see his Party friends come to his concerts.

This data is being transmitted for the purpose of information to the Bureau.

CRG:rmc
100-4843

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100-12304-3

FEB 14 1946

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REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2

DATE OF REVIEW 11/21/90

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK

NY FILE NO. 100-25857 EED

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 4/5/46	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/20, 21, 22, 25, 26/46	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7c
TITLE PAUL ROBESON, with alias John Thomas			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

ROBESON continues to support Communist front programs lending his presence and influence to various meetings sponsored by known front groups. He continues as Chairman of the Council on African Affairs. Information set out reflecting MAX YERGAN, known active Communist front leader among Negroes and Executive Director of the Council on African Affairs, is very close to subject and exerts considerable influence over his front activities, arranging for his appearances, etc. Information set out reflecting subject is sought after by known Communists and utilize his presence in various parts of the country while on concert tour to lend his prestige to front meetings in these localities. He has urged suppressing of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" at Communist instigation, supported actors in argument over their appearance before meeting of Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, and politically supported MICHAEL QUILL, pro-Communist, and BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, JR., Communist, in 1945 city elections. He strongly praised the Soviet Union before a meeting of National Council of American-Soviet Friendship.

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] New York City, July 25, 1945. b7c

DETAILS:

Confidential Informant [REDACTED] advised that sometime prior to April 1945 ELLA REEVES BLOOR, known among members of the Communist Party as Mother BLOOR, stated while in Portland, b7D

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>E.E. Conroy</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES RECORDED 100-12304-40 CLASS. & EXT. REASON FOR DATE OF REVIEW ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 4 - New York CCOR 7-1-46 KWC wla	<div style="text-align: center;">CONFIDENTIAL</div> <div style="text-align: right;"> 11/21/90 17 </div>

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NY 100-25857

Oregon, that she had met the subject somewhere in the Middle West at a time previous thereto and that at that time she inducted the daughter of a Communist into the Communist Political Association. The informant advised that it was indicated that PAUL ROBESON was present at this induction ceremony and as claimed by Mother BLOOR, he was very enthusiastic about the ceremony.

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised on [redacted] that he learned that ROY HUDSON, then a member of the National Committee of the Communist Political Association, had been advised by BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, Jr., that he, DAVIS, had talked with PAUL ROBESON relative to the DUCLOS article in regard to the policies of the Communist Party in the United States at that time and that ROBESON expressed himself as thinking that WILLIAM Z. FOSTER was correct in his thinking about the matter. It will be noted that this relates to the break between many members of the Communist Party and EARL BROWDER which later resulted in the overthrow of BROWDER as head of the Communist Party in the United States. b7D

During the period covered by this report considerable information has been received by the New York Field Division reflecting that the subject continues as Chairman of the Council on African Affairs. Informants of this Office have advised of information reflecting that ROBESON has during the past several months been engaged professionally in concert tours throughout the United States as well as having made a trip under the auspices of the USO to the European Theater.

Information furnished by these informants also reflects that the subject has apparently increasingly come under the control of MAX YERGAN, Executive Director of the Council on African Affairs, and known as a leader in Communist front activities among the Negroes in the United States. The informants from time to time have disclosed information reflecting that YERGAN has occupied himself greatly to the extent of arranging for appointments for the subject and his appearance before numerous meetings sponsored by organizations known as Communist front organizations. Further detailed information reflecting these activities is being set out hereafter.

The Daily Worker of May 17, 1945 carried an article stating that the subject was to speak in the South Side of Chicago where he was appearing at that time in a performance before a meeting entitled "San Francisco and Planning the Negro's Future". It is not known to the New York Office whether the sponsorship of this meeting was under Communist domination.

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The Daily Worker of May 16, 1945 announced that the subject was to appear on a program entitled "Salute to the G-I's of the United Nations" on May 31, 1945 which was under the auspices of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship which is known as a strong Communist front organization. The Daily Worker of June 1, 1945 stated the subject sang Red Army songs at this meeting which was held in Madison Square Garden. ←

Informant [redacted] furnished the New York Field Division with the following information concerning the subject's activities during the months of April, May, and June of 1945 while he was in Chicago appearing at the Erlanger Theater in his play, "Othello", which opened on April 9, 1945 and closed May 19, 1945: This informant advised that throughout the subject's stay in Chicago during April and May WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, Assistant Director of the Abraham Lincoln School and an alternate member of the National Committee of the then Communist Political Association, handled all the subject's engagements which had any social or political significance. This informant advised that the influence and interest of the Communist Political Association was evident in numerous activities in which the subject participated and the subject's appearances were scheduled obviously with the view in mind of enhancing the prestige of the Abraham Lincoln School known in Chicago as Communist dominated. The informant also advised that these appearances were usually scheduled for the financial benefit of Communist front organizations or groups known to contain members or sympathizers of the CPA. 67D

[redacted] advised that prior to the subject's presence in Chicago, WILLIAM L. PATTERSON warned RAY HANSBROUGH, a member of the National Committee of the CPA as well as Second Vice-President of District 8 of the CPA, that this organization should not be brought too far to the front in an affair planned for the benefit of the Abraham Lincoln School.

[redacted] advised that numerous Party functionaries were in contact with PATTERSON on a number of occasions relative to affairs being planned for the subject. On one occasion WILLIAM PATTERSON received a request from the Hearst-owned Chicago "Herald-American" requesting that ROBESON speak before a Monroe Doctrine Oratorical Contest on April 12, 1945 sponsored by this paper. According to [redacted] PATTERSON refused to accept the responsibility of making a decision in this matter and requested the opinion of officials at CPA headquarters.

[redacted] advised that the above-mentioned matter was discussed thoroughly relative to ROBESON's appearing before what they

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termed an "enemy platform", but after conference with various prominent members of the CPA in Chicago, PATTERSON advised the subject to accept this invitation. [REDACTED] advised that on this occasion PATTERSON attempted to get one of the CPA officials at the Communist headquarters in Chicago to write ROBESON's speech but he, PATTERSON, was left with the responsibility of obtaining someone to write the speech for the subject. DAVID ENGELSTEIN, Educational Director of District #8 of the CPA, offered after the speech was prepared to review it and make suggestions.

[REDACTED] advised that the Abraham Lincoln School capitalized on the subject's Chicago engagement to benefit the school's treasury by several thousand dollars.

On April 15, 1945 a dinner attended by 110 persons, the majority of whom are reliably reported to be members of the CPA and sympathizers with that organization, was held at \$100 per couple. The school is reported to have netted a profit of \$5,000 from this occasion at which the subject spoke and praised EARL BROWDER and the CPA for its stand on the Negro and anti-Semitic questions. [REDACTED] learned from PATTERSON that the same material used in this talk was also to be used in ROBESON's talks before audiences in two large Jewish temples merely omitting specific mention of the CPA or identifying the philosophy of the CPA by name. b7D

PATTERSON is quoted to have been besieged with requests for the subject's appearance, many of which were made by representatives of alleged Communist-front groups desiring to capitalize on the subject's popularity to increase financial success of the events for which he was requested. The subject was sought after by many union officials reportedly members or functionaries of the CPA and known associates of WILLIAM PATTERSON.

[REDACTED] advised that the largest union-sponsored affair in which the subject participated was the United Nations Day held under the auspices of the United Packing House Workers of America, CIO, which was attended by about 15,000 members. Arrangements for the subject's appearance were made by PATTERSON and HERBERT MARCH, reportedly a prominent member of the CPA as well as District Director of this Union.

The subject also attended a membership meeting of the UAW, Local 453, CIO, in Chicago on May 13, 1945 at which he was made an honorary member of the local on the motion of one SAM MARIANI, a member of the Executive Committee of District #8 of the CPA.

Informant [REDACTED] advised that the subject's talks centered around the broad topic of the San Francisco Conference. On May 15, 1945

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he spoke at a meeting sponsored by six campus organizations including American Youth for Democracy, a known Communist-front organization at the University of Chicago.

It is reliably reported by [REDACTED] that the subject in his speech calling for racial equality praised highly the example set by Russia in which country he and his family spent several years. He condemned Fascists both in the United States and abroad and predicted that FRANCO's Spain would soon suffer the same fate as that of MUSSOLINI's Italy.

On May 20, 1945 the subject spoke in Chicago on the subject, "San Francisco and the Negro", at a large affair sponsored by the newly organized Chicago Council on African Affairs. Arrangements for this appearance were made by MAX YERGAN of New York, PATTERSON, and ISHMAEL FLORY, Secretary of the Negro People's Assembly in Chicago and a reported member of the Executive Committee of the CPA in Chicago. The subject departed thereafter from Chicago. Informant [REDACTED] advised that preliminary arrangements for appearances of the subject in major affairs in Chicago during this period were made by MAX YERGAN, the Executive Director of the Council on African Affairs.

It was indicated by Confidential Informants [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that the subject returned to the New York City area at that time. Subsequent thereto, Informants [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] advised the New York Office that arrangements were being made between ISHMAEL FLORY of Chicago and MAX YERGAN for the appearance of the subject in Chicago on June 17, 1945. It was disclosed by these informants that this was to be an IWO fund raising affair and, as later substantiated by Informant [REDACTED] these arrangements were for the appearance of YERGAN before the Dusable Lodge 751 of the International Workers Order in Chicago, which is the largest lodge in the IWO and which organization is known to be a Communist front.

Arrangements were made through YERGAN for the appearance of the subject on June 19, 1945 in Chicago at the fifteenth anniversary dinner of the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee, an alleged Communist-dominated organization. According to the Chicago Daily News of June 6, 1945, this dinner was sponsored under the names of the subject and MARSHALL FIELD of that city, the purpose of which was to raise funds for this committee. It was reported by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that arrangements were made for one MERLE NANCE, a known member of the Communist Party, to accompany ROBESON as his secretary on this trip. These informants also reported that an offer was made to YERGAN for ROBESON in the amount

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of \$1,000 if the subject appeared before the meeting of the Civil Liberties Committee. This offer was made by IRA LATTIMORE of the Civil Liberties Committee.

█████ advised that the subject departed from the United States on July 30, 1945 for a tour of approximately six weeks under the sponsorship of the USO. This tour was to take him to various parts of Europe for entertainment of the troops in those areas. The informant advised that MAX YERGAN exerted considerable influence and was quite active in the subject's preparations for departure on this trip.

The New York Amsterdam News of June 16, 1945 carried an article stating that the subject was to go overseas with his play, "Othello".

Confidential Informant █████ advised that on July 25, 1945 MAX YERGAN held a going away party for the subject at his home. The informant furnished information reflecting that the purpose of this party was to bring ROBESON together with two Communist Chinese delegates to the San Francisco Conference who on July 25, 1945 were in New York City. According to this informant, these delegates were present at the party as well as several persons known to be prominent in Communist activities among the Negroes in this country.

The subject returned to the United States on or about September 14, 1945. According to Informant █████ MAX YERGAN, Director of the Council on African Affairs, stated that ROBESON returned to the United States with two convictions, namely, the "continuing spirit of Nazi leadership in Europe" and the conviction that the colonial peoples of Africa and the Far East "are being subjected to a squeeze". This informant advised that the Council on African Affairs subsequent to ROBESON's return became very active in promoting a fund raising meeting, the purpose of which was to attempt to raise a large sum of money to enable the subject to speak on the radio.

In the latter part of September a meeting was called of approximately fifteen friends of ROBESON for the purpose of meeting with him to determine what his observations were.

█████ reported █████ that a meeting was held on October 21, 1945 at the home of FREDERICK V. FIELD, whose wife EDITH FIELD is known as the treasurer of the Council on African Affairs. It was the stated purpose of this meeting to raise fifteen to twenty thousand dollars for the proposed radio appearance of the subject. The informant stated that this meeting was to consist of about seventy-five persons who were to donate at least \$100 apiece for this

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cause. The informant learned that YERGAN reported that approximately \$6500 to \$7000 was raised. However, subsequent information received by the New York Office disclosed that this sum was actually less than \$4,000.

Prior to this, Informants [redacted] and [redacted] advised that ANDREW ONDA, a known ranking member of the Communist Party at Bridgeport, Connecticut, had placed a request before JOHNNY WILLIAMSON, member of the Secretariat of the Communist Party, for assistance in a campaign to help prevent the appearance of "Uncle Tom's Cabin", a stage play, in Bridgeport, Connecticut. A request was made through WILLIAMSON that the subject issue a statement supporting the elimination of the appearance of this play in Bridgeport. The informant advised that this matter was referred to MAX YERGAN who is reported to have expressed an interest in the matter and a willingness to persuade the subject to issue this statement. b7D

The Daily Worker of September 30, 1945 carried an article stating that the subject acted as chairman of more than one thousand citizens in the fine arts field who formed an organization known as the "Artists, Writers, and Professional Division of the Benjamin J. Davis Non-Partisan Committee". This article stated that these citizens "believe with PAUL ROBESON that 'if BEN is reelected that means we're in there'". This article went on to quote ROBESON as stating "His (BEN DAVIS) campaign belongs to the people, to all the people — white and Negro, Gentile and Jew, cutting across all boundaries and non-partisan politics....Our Ben in the City Council. That means we're in thereWith the critical postwar issues no longer in the future, but confronting us sharply today, Ben is needed more than before." It will be noted that BENJAMIN J. DAVIS is a member of the National Committee of the Communist Party and also has subsequently been elected as a member of the New York City Council as a Communist.

On September 24, 1945 the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee in New York sponsored a program which was held at Madison Square Garden for the purpose of raising funds for Spanish relief. At this meeting an attack was launched on the Catholic Church by HAROLD LASKY of Great Britain. There also appeared on this program several actors in the New York area whose appearance at this meeting was severely criticized by Actor FRANK FAY. A controversy thereafter arose in the ACTORS EQUITY ASSOCIATION over this matter. HESTER SONDERGAARD (phonetic) is reported by Informant [redacted] to have requested MAX YERGAN to have ROBESON send a telegram to Actors Equity criticizing FRANK FAY for filing a complaint before that organization against those actors who appeared b7D

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at the meeting. The informant advised that information reflecting that YERGAN, acting on this request and the request of one Mr. JAFFEE of Actors Equity, discussed the proposed statement with the subject and that the subject in his statement to this organization pointed out that the Franco Government of Spain had been pro-Fascist and was aided by Germany and that the appearance of the actors before the meeting in question was not one of a religious issue and that LASKY had nothing to do with the Equity members' appearance before such meetings which oppose Fascism. The informant advised that a statement was prepared by MAX YERGAN upon the authority of ROBESON to be sent to Actors Equity in this matter.

Informant [redacted] advised that a request was made of MAX YERGAN by the office of MICHAEL QUILL, then candidate for the City Council from the Borough of the Bronx and a known pro-Communist, asking that YERGAN obtain a statement from the subject endorsing MICHAEL QUILL for candidate for re-election. The informant advised that a statement was submitted to QUILL's office by YERGAN allegedly from the subject to the effect that ROBESON was pleased to give his full endorsement to his "good friend, MICHAEL QUILL", and his campaign. ROBESON in this statement urged his people and other citizens of the Bronx to make QUILL their first-choice candidate. His endorsement of QUILL characterized QUILL as alert in the interests of labor and minorities and "truly a people's representative". QUILL is a known close associate of the Communist Party and is known to have followed the Communist Party line in the past. b7D

The Daily Worker of October 19, 1945 carried an article stating that the subject received the Spingarn Medal on the previous night. The Spingarn Medal is an annual award made by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored Peoples to an outstanding American Negro of the year. The article stated that the thirtieth award to be made was presented by MARSHALL FIELD to the subject at the Hotel Biltmore. The newspaper, "P.M.", of the same date stated that the award was for ROBESON's "distinguished achievements in the theater and on the concert stage, as well as his active concern for the rights of the common man of every race, color, religion, and nationality". This article stated that the subject pointed out in his speech that the Russians have shown what backward peoples can do in one generation. He stated, "Full employment there is a fact and not a myth".

The remainder of the subject's talk consisted of political comments including an attack on the "Bevens and Dubinskys who manage fantastically in the end to be on the side of the Fascists they say they hate". He also called for an alignment on the side of freedom

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NY 100-25857

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against the publishers, HEARST, McCORMICK, and PATTERSON, and the columnist, JOHN O'DONNELL.

The Daily Worker of October 20, 1945, carried an article headlined, "ROBESON lauds BEN DAVIS for his faith in his people", wherein the subject is quoted as attacking the Social Democrats stating "How different they are from a Ben Davis who has faith of the people from which he stems". This article went on to state that ROBESON praised the Soviet Union for its destruction of Fascism and its fight against discrimination.

Informants [redacted] and [redacted] advised that [redacted] a script writer for the COLUMBIA BROADCASTING SYSTEM and a known close affiliate of Communists in the New York Field Division, arranged through MAX YERGAN for the appearance of PAUL ROBESON before a forum sponsored by the New York Herald Tribune on October 29, 1945. This forum consisted of speeches by various individuals on American-Soviet relations. [redacted] furnished information reflecting that the subject fulfilled this request and that his speech was evidently prepared by YERGAN.

[redacted] (c)

[redacted] (c)

[redacted] (c)

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[REDACTED]
(c)

[REDACTED]
(c)

[REDACTED]
(c)

"The People's Voice" of November 10, 1945 carried an article stating that "Robeson Answers Fascist Criticism". This article stated that in response to criticism by the Montreal Gazette for including in his concert a talk against FRANCO, the subject stated, "They will have to take what I have to say along with my songs" and said that ROBESON was delighted to "be able to get a rise out of the reactionaries".

Informant [REDACTED] advised that arrangements were made through MAX YERGAN and the Council on African Affairs for the appearance of the subject before a meeting sponsored by the National Council for American-Soviet Friendship at Madison Square Garden on November 14, 1945.

Confidential Informant [REDACTED] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that this meeting was an anniversary meeting of the twenty-eight years of the existence of the Soviet Union and of the twelve years of American recognition of the Soviet Government. This informant advised that the meeting was addressed by several individuals including CORLISS LAMONT and NICOLAI NOVIKOV, Soviet Charge d'Affaires, with the theme being praise of the Soviet Union. The informant stated that the biggest attraction of the meeting turned out to be the subject, PAUL ROBESON, and not the Dean of Canterbury who was also a speaker on the program. This informant advised that the subject sang English and Russian songs and made a strong speech against the United States, England, and the United Nations for their undemocratic handling of the colonial people and the minorities groups. The informant stated that the subject strongly praised the Soviet Government for freeing the colonial people and solving the question of national minorities.

The Daily Worker of November 15, 1945 quoted ROBESON as praising the Soviet Union's liberation of former colonial peoples and

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called attention to the United States Government's anti-democratic intervention against the people of China and Indonesia. According to this paper, the subject stated, "If the United States and the United Nations truly want peace and security, let them fulfil the hopes of common peoples everywhere — let them work together to accomplish on a world-wide scale precisely the kind of democratic association of free peoples which characterizes the Soviet Union today".

"The People's Voice", a Negro pro-Communist paper in New York City, carried a picture of the subject shaking hands with the Dean of Canterbury at this meeting. ←

Informant [redacted] advised that the subject was requested by the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship to also appear at a conference of the Cultural Relations Committee of this organization on November 18, 1945, but advised that this request was turned down in preference to the meeting of November 14th because of the political significance" of the latter. b7D

"The People's Voice" of December 1, 1945 carried an article stating that the subject "blasted" GENERAL MOTORS and repression of the Jewish and Indonesian people when he spoke at a two-day meeting held on November 25th and 26th, 1945 by the Institute on Judaism and Race Relations.

On January 4, 1946 Informant [redacted] advised that efforts were being made by a Mr. McDUFFEY (phonetic) who had been appointed to head a UNRRA mission to the Ukraine to take ROBESON's son with him on this mission.

The Council on African Affairs, of which the subject is chairman, held a meeting at the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem on January 7, 1946 for the purpose of raising relief funds for the people of Africa. In his article appearing in the guest column of the Daily Worker, January 10, 1946, ALPHEUS HUNTON stated that the subject and JOSH LAWRENCE were speakers on this program.

"The Daily Worker" of March 5, 1946 listed the subject among several persons acting as sponsors for a "National Mobilization in Washington" movement to be held April 5, 6, and 7, 1946 to "win the U.S. back to a genuine anti-Fascist foreign program".

[redacted] advised that subsequent to the speech of WINSTON CHURCHILL at Fulton, Missouri, MAX YERGAN prepared a letter consisting of a

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NY 100-25857

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

strong protest to this speech which was to be sent to the President over the subject's signature. The informant advised that he had received information reflecting that the subject after being advised of the contents of this letter was reticent in giving his approval to send the letter over his signature and that it was decided that the letter should be reworded in a more moderate tone and sent jointly over the signatures of ROBESON and MAX YERGAN.

Throughout the period covered by this report, Informants [redacted] and [redacted] have repeatedly furnished the New York Field Division with information reflecting that the subject, although continuing as chairman of the Council on African Affairs, does not devote much of his time to the activities of this organization beyond that of participating in the various public meetings held by the same. These informants have advised of information reflecting that MAX YERGAN is active in handling the affairs of the Council on African Affairs and attaches a great deal of importance to the subject's name in connection therewith. The informants have advised that the subject is in great demand by various organizations indicated to be closely aligned with members of the Communist Party. The information received has reflected that the Council on African Affairs has during the past several months been active in receiving these requests for ROBESON's appearance and it has been indicated by informants that MAX YERGAN as Executive Director of this organization has the approval of the subject to handle these matters for him.

b7D

Informant [redacted] has advised that the subject is currently on a concert tour of the United States.

- P E N D I N G -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION:

At New York, New York.

Will continue to follow and report the Communist activities of the subject.

Will attempt to locate and forward to the Bureau handwriting specimens of the subject.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

The Confidential Informants mentioned in the report of
Special Agent [REDACTED] dated April 5, 1946, are as follows:

T-1

T-2

T-3

T-4

T-5

T-6

T-7

[REDACTED]

b7c

c) b1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 6/12/46

att FROM : SAC, New Haven

SUBJECT: ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON, was.
SECURITY MATTER (C)

Reference is made to Bureau letter to New Haven dated November 1, 1943 concerning the above subject which bears Bureau File Number 100-238364, and to Bureau form letter to New Haven dated June 10, 1944 which bears Bureau File Number 100-12304 concerning this subject, which latter number is noted to be the Bureau File Number for the case on subject's husband, PAUL LE ROY ROBESON.

This is being pointed out in the event that the Bureau may desire to consolidate these two files, if this has not already been done. It is requested that this office be advised of the correct Bureau file number for the above-captioned subject's case.

WLM:gml
100-8032*100-12304
New Haven
9-8-46*RECORDED
&
INDEXED

100-12304-41

72-

25 JUN 14 1946

*ml*ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 11/21/80 BY SP5 RSG/CM

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100-12304-41

SAC, New Haven

August 8, 1946

RECORDED

Director, FBI

ESLANDA COOKE ROBINSON, was
Security Matter - C

With reference to your letter dated June 12, 1946, in connection with the above-captioned matter, you are advised that the correct Bureau file number of this case is 100-12304.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

HWC:mn

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 1
★ AUG - 8 1946 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

AUG 19 1946

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100-12304-42, 43

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62-81962-1, 2



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

New York ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF
DATE 7-27-46

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
July 2, 1946

Director, FBI

RE: PAUL ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Informant [REDACTED] advised that PAUL ROBESON addressed a meeting of the Waterfront Section of the Communist Party on June 26, 1946 at New York. bl

He reported that ROBESON accused Army Officers and State Department officials of open collaboration with Nazis and fascists in Czechoslovakia. ROBESON said he knew this to be true because he was with these officers and officials in Czechoslovakia while making a tour of Europe just after the war ended.



EGB:FAL
100-25857

cc: 62-8034

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080 XED

MAY 14 1978

Very truly yours,
E. E. CONROY
SAC
CLASS. & EXT. REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 11/21/96

100-12304-44

100-12304-44

Date: July 30, 1948

To: Mr. Jack D. Neal
Chief
Division of Foreign Activity Correlation
State Department
Washington, D. C.

BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director - Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: PAUL ROBESON

It has been learned from a reliable confidential source that Paul Robeson addressed a meeting of the Waterfront Section of the Communist Party on June 26, 1946, at New York City. At this meeting Robeson reportedly accused Army officers and State Department officials of open collaboration with the Nazis and Fascists in Czechoslovakia, declaring that he knew this to be true because he accompanied those officers and officials in Czechoslovakia while making a tour of Europe just after the termination of World War II.

The above is set out for your information.

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DATE 11/21/85

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00. INFORMATIONAL

MAILED

☆ JUL 30 1946

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

~~APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF
DATE~~

52 AUG 15 1946

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Paul Robeson

Bandurant Iowa 9-25-45

J. Edgar Hoover

Dear Friend

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP5 BSG/KM

I feel moved to write to
you as I read an article
in the Des Moines Register
by Mr Paul Robeson Negro
Linger to President Truman
I am sending the clipping
to you I wish just thing
How all of this could be
true and your office
could not do something
about it.

100-12304-45

I am sending

RECORDED OCT 22 1946

attached yours

INDEXED

10-29-46

[Redacted]

I have always felt sorry for the Negro

b7c

Hedging on Lynch Law By Truman

WASHINGTON, D. C. (AP)—A national conference on lynching Monday mapped a program aimed



ROBESON.

at curbing mob violence and sent a delegation which told President Truman that if the government doesn't do something about the matter "the Negroes will."

Paul Robeson, Negro singer who was a sponsor of the conference, said Mr. Truman had objected to parts of the proposed program.

Robeson said he read a message to Mr. Truman asking him to issue "a formal public statement expressing your views on lynching, and recommending a definite legislative and educational program to end the disgrace of mob violence."

The president, Robeson said, indicated political matters made it difficult to issue a statement of his views at this time.

'Timing Important.'

Robeson said that as to possible federal legislation to curb lynching, the president expressed the view that passage is a political matter in which timing is important.

The president took exception, Robeson said, to a suggestion by the delegation that it "seemed inept for the United States to take the lead in the Nuernberg trials and all so far behind in respect to justice to Negroes in this country."

The presidential view, Robeson said, was that Americans should not tie domestic matters to the international situation.

The organization also sent delegations to Attorney General Tom Clark and to the Republican and Democratic national committees.

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Platform.

It gave this as its platform: "The apprehension and punishment of every lyncher. Passage of a federal anti-lynching bill. Keeping the klan out of congress—no senate seat for Bilbo (Senator Bilbo, Democrat, of Mississippi)."

In a message to Clark, the conference declared that although there have been 41 reported lynchings since the war ended "not one single arrest, indictment or conviction of any participant in any of the lynchings has been made." It urged the justice department to "use all its authority in a determined drive" to apprehend the lynchers.

The conference told the political parties:

"We have come to demand that the national committees of the Democratic and Republican parties insist in the forthcoming election that all party candidates adhere to and support the enactment into law of an anti-lynching bill."

ENCLOSURE

100-12304-45

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ENCLOSURE

100-12304-45

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100-12304-45

WHAT

MUST I DO TO BE

SAVED?

(Answered on page 2.)

the marriage: and the door was shut." Matt 25:10.

"Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left." Matt 24:40, 41.

"For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first."

"Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."

"Wherefore comfort one another with these words." I Thess. 4:16, 17, 18.

"Watch ye therefore; for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning: Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. And what I say unto you I say unto all. WATCH." Mark 13:35-37.

G. B

"But if our Gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost." II Cor. 4:3-4.

"But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed." Gal 1:8-9.

Don't let this tract die, pass it on.

All Tracts Free, as the Lord permits, as this work is conducted on the Free-Will Offering Plan.

FREE TRACT SOCIETY, (Inc.)
746 Crocker St. Los Angeles, Cal.

PRINTED IN U. S. A.

ARE YOU LOST and DO NOT KNOW IT?

"There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." Prov. 14:12.

"I am the way, the truth and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me." John 14:6.

"And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: (on the cross)

"That whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

"For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved.

"He that believeth on Him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." John 8:14-18.

"This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." I Tim. 1:15.

"But the Scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of

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If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.—Romans 10:9, 10.

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.—John 3:16.

Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.—Acts 4:12.

Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him.—Hebrews 7:25.

Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow.—Isaiah 1:18.

WHAT

MUST I DO TO BE

LOST?

(Answered on page 4)

Don't let this tract die, but pass it on.

All Tracts Free, as the Lord permits, as this work is conducted on the Free-Will Offering Plan.

FREE TRACT SOCIETY (INC.)
746 Crocker St. Los Angeles 21, Calif.
PRINTED IN U. S. A.

Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe." Gal. 3:22

"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost; which he shed on us through Jesus Christ our Saviour." Titus 3:5, 6.

"But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." I Pet. 1:19.

"Who His Own Self bare our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed." I Pet. 2:24.

"For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;" I Tim. 2:3-5.

"The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished." II Pet. 2:9.

You, dear reader, you who pride yourself on your moral life; and you who are guilty of crime; each must come through the same Door into eternal life.

(Rom. 3:9, 10:23, John 10:9).

What is it to believe in Christ? To feel your need of Him to save you and Him alone. To come unto Him. Jesus says: "Him that cometh unto Me, I will in no wise cast out." John 6:37. "And this is the will of Him that sent Me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on Him

may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day." John 6:40.

Have you seen Jesus?

"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: If any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." Rev. 3:20.

"To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne." Rev. 3:21.

"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star. And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst, Come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." Rev. 22:13, 16, 17.

"He which testifieth these things saith. Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so come, Lord Jesus.

"The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen." Rev. 22:20, 21.

Dear one, these are the closing words of the Bible. Are you ready? Are you washed in the blood of Christ Jesus? Are you filled with the Holy Spirit? Acts 2:4. "For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call." Acts 2:38, 39.

Do not be a foolish virgin like those who had no oil in their lamps. "And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to

October 29, 1946

[REDACTED]
Bondurant, Iowa

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of September 25, 1946 has been received. The interest which prompted you to write to me as you did is indeed appreciated.

You may be assured that your letter has been carefully read and the letter and enclosure are being made a part of the official records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

JEM/dm

RECORDED

EX - 31

100-12304-45

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DATE 11/2/80 BY SP-5 RJB/CLM

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

MAILED 15
OCT 31 1946 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

NOV 8 1946

794-11-35

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

NY FILE NO. **100-25857** DAN

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 11/8/46	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 7/23; 9/6/46.	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7c
TITLE PAUL ROBESON, with alias John Thomas			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject, Negro, was born 4/9/98 at Princeton, New Jersey. He married **ESLANDE CARDOZO GOODE** 8/17/21. She was born 12/15/99 at Washington, D. C. The subject maintains residence at 1221 Enfield Street, Enfield, Conn. He is a nationally known singer who has in the past travelled throughout the United States presenting concerts. He is prominent in Communist affairs, lending his prestige and public appearances to the Communist cause. He is Chairman of the **COUNCIL ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS**, a known front organization.

Birth data noted on 55 and 2-7-47

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REFERENCES:

Report of Special Agent **[REDACTED]** New York 4/5/46.
SAC Letter #28, 3/12/46.

DETAILS:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

The "WHO'S WHO IN AMERICA" for the year 1938-1939 disclosed that **PAUL ROBESON** was born April 9, 1898 at Princeton, New Jersey. The subject is colored and a citizen of the United States by birth. This book also disclosed that the subject married **ESLANDE CARDOZO GOODE** on

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Edward Schuch</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 100-12304-46
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 3 - New York	CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RSG/CM REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 DATE OF REVIEW 11/21/90
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NY 100-25857

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

August 17, 1921. Election records at Enfield, Conn. reflect that the subject's wife, ESLANDE CARDOZO GOODE, was born December 15, 1899 at Washington, D. C.

Confidential Informant T-1 has advised that the subject maintains a residence at 1221 Enfield Street, Enfield, Conn., although this informant has reported that the subject is seldom at his residence due to the fact that he travels continuously and is in New York a large part of the time. Confidential Informant T-1 and various New York newspapers disclose that the subject who has been reported as well known in Communist circles is a nationally known singer who has in the past travelled throughout the United States presenting concerts. He is known as an actor and singer and receives his income from this source. He is Chairman of the COUNCIL ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS. Various sources have reported that the subject has been well-known in Communist circles and active in Communist front affairs lending his prestige and presence to the success of benefit functions sponsored by known Communist front organizations in raising funds.

Confidential Informant T-1 has advised that the subject is Chairman of the COUNCIL ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS and has been active in that organization to the extent of raising money to promote the activities of same which is known as a Communist front organization.

- P E N D I N G -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

203

NY 100-25857

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

NEW YORK

At New York, N. Y. - Will continue to follow and report the Communist activities of the subject.

Will attempt to locate and forward to the Bureau handwriting specimens of the subject.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-25857

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT

The Confidential Informant mentioned in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated October 31, 1946 at New York, New York is as follows: b7c

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
T-1 New York Informant [REDACTED] whose identity is known b1
to the Bureau.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SAC, New York

November 25, 1946
100-12304

Director, FBI

PAUL ROBESON, wa
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
Your File 100-28857

The Bureau desires that your office prepare a report in summary form in this case setting forth by witnesses only such information of a legally admissible character as will tend to prove, directly or circumstantially, membership in or affiliation with the Communist Party, and knowledge of the revolutionary aims and purposes of that organization. Temporary symbols should be used to protect the identity of those informants who are in a position to testify.

RECORDED

EX-4

100-12304-47
FBI
53 NOV 27 1946

9

NOV 26 1946

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

ARS:edm

55 DEC 4 1946

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP5 RJC/clm

206

SAC, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

December 23, 1946

Director, FBI

PAUL ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

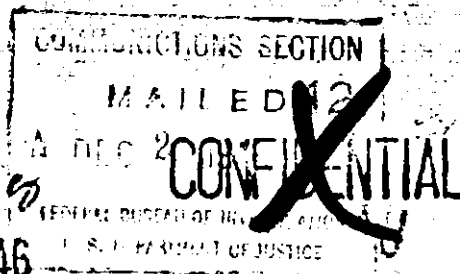
There is attached for your information a copy of a communication dated December 4, 1946, received from the [REDACTED] concerning the above captioned subject. c b1

72-12304-48
Attachment
RECORDED

100-12304-48
HWC:IGS

11/21/80
CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RSC/ML
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 93
DATE OF REVIEW 11/27/90

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____



63 DEC 31 1946

207

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET1

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Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.



Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.



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Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

To protect information currently and properly
classified pursuant to Executive Order 12065.



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Bureau File 100-12304-48 (Enclosure page)

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 12/3/46

FROM : SAC, SAN FRANCISCO

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUBJECT: PAUL ROBESON

INTERNAL SECURITY - C

On [REDACTED] confidential informant [REDACTED] furnished the San Francisco Field Division with a letter written by the subject in behalf of the Council on African Affairs, asking for donations for the purpose of combating alleged persecution of negroes in South Africa under the government of GENERAL SMUTS.

A photostatic copy of the letter is being forwarded to the Bureau and the New York Field Division for informational purposes and whatever action is deemed advisable. The document originated in the headquarters of the San Francisco Communist Party, and is being maintained in the files of the San Francisco Field Division.

LHJ:GH

100-6907

cc-New York (Enc.)

Enc.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RSC/MLH
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 11/21/90

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INDEXED

201

36 DEC 9 1946

58 DEC 18 1946

PAUL ROBESON

212 WEST 26TH STREET
NEW YORK 11

My Friend,

You and I must learn from the tragedy of human greed and the will to power to help, not to harm. And certainly, the widespread nature of this suffering adds to our responsibility.

At this moment eight million severely oppressed Africans under the fascist-like government of General Smuts look to us for help. We have already sent them some of our best men and women to fight for their rights through the United Nations Assembly. And the time is short.

You must know the facts. These people are not allowed to vote, they have virtually no schools and hospitals. They have no labor laws, no right to strike, no right to organize. They are being killed, maimed, and suffering from disease and death.

The immediate task is to utilize every channel of opinion and influence in order to bring these facts forcefully to the attention of the United Nations Assembly, and to open the way to freedom for the people of Africa. The "white supremacy" government of General Smuts must not be allowed to hamper South West Africa and thereby oppress thousands of Africans to exploit. The peoples of other African territories must be given protection and democratic rights.

Because I believe in the urgency of this task I am giving considerable time to the Council on African Affairs which is doing the best to help the African people. I would like to see the Council on African Affairs provided with the \$25,000 needed to do this urgent and necessary work. Your gift is deductible for income tax purposes. Your support is needed. Can't you help by sending your contribution in the enclosed envelope?

Sincerely yours,

Paul Robeson

Paul Robeson

NEW YORK, N.Y.

SAC, New York

December 23, 1946
100-12304

Director, FBI

PAUL ROBESON, wa
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
Your File 100-25857

The Bureau desires that your office prepare a report in summary form in this case setting forth by witnesses only such information of a legally admissible character as will tend to prove, directly or circumstantially, membership in or affiliation with the Communist Party, and knowledge of the revolutionary aims and purposes of that organization. Temporary symbols should be used to protect the identity of those informants who are in a position to testify.

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EX-88

100-12304-50

53 DEC 27 1946

Dec 23 4 46 PM '46

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FBI

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Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Carson
Egan
Gurnea
Harbo
Hendon
Pennington
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Miss Gandy

ARS:edm

1946

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5-5 BY R561CMT

60 JAN 9 1947

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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21

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI
 FROM : SAC, SAINT LOUIS
 SUBJECT:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: PAUL ROBESON
 INTERNAL SECURITY - C

DATE: JANUARY 29, 1947
 APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
 AND FIELD OFFICES
 ADVISED BY ROUTING
 SLIP(S) OF C/US, FR
 DATE 8/3/81

The Bureau's attention is directed to the fact that PAUL ROBESON appeared in Saint Louis in order to fulfil a singing engagement at the Kiel Auditorium on Friday, January 24, 1947, conducted for the benefit of the People's Hospital.

While in Saint Louis, ROBESON was photographed by various local newspapers carrying a placard in a picket line in front of the American Theater, a legitimate house. ROBESON stated that he marched in the line sponsored by the Civil Rights Congress of Saint Louis to protest the segregation policy practiced at the theater.

Additional organizations participating in the picket were: Saint Louis Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, The Citizens Council for Democracy, a local Communist Party front, the local chapter of the AYD, the local chapter of the Civil Rights Congress Committee and the local branch of the National Negro Congress, which latter group is controlled completely by the CP.

It is noted that the article in the press concerning the picket carried a statement to the effect that the actor engaged for that week, namely WALTER HUSTON, met with representatives of the Civil Rights Congress on Friday evening, January 24, 1947 and expressed himself as in sympathy with the demonstration against Jim Crowism. This quotation was obtained not from HUSTON but from representatives of the Civil Rights Congress in Saint Louis.

ONE. INF. [redacted] advised on [redacted] that PAUL ROBESON was being cared for in Saint Louis by ELMER V. MOSEE and that messages for ROBESON could be given to him through MOSEE.

WILLIAM L. PATTERSON called on January 24, 1947 from Chicago, Illinois, and talked with RALPH SHAW, CP Missouri State Chairman. RALPH SHAW advised the informant that PATTERSON had given him a message to be directed to ROBESON, namely that we, the CP of Illinois, have planned an afternoon affair for ROBESON on April 26 and a second afternoon affair for him on April 27, that the CP of Illinois is completing arrangements for ROBESON to leave Chicago for Springfield on the evening of April 27 at 6:00 P. M.

SHAW stated that he will tell ROBESON that if the latter wishes additional information, he can reach PATTERSON in care of Randolph 5580 until 6:00 P. M., January 24, 1947. The latter telephone number is believed to be that of the headquarters of the Illinois CP.

No action is being taken in this matter by the Saint Louis Field Division.

GKS:mw

100-4843

CC - SAC, CHICAGO

SL # 100-739 - 100-7306 and 100-3755

58 FEB 11 1947

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CLASS. & EXT. BY 11243 JSC/ctc
 REASON-FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2
 DATE OF REVIEW 08/12/11

Testimonial Banquet

HONORING

PAUL ROBESON

CIVIC CENTER BALLROOM

January 20th, 1947

- Program -

Invocation Rev. A. C. Williams
Vice-President, National Negro Congress

Toastmaster George Harrison
Secretary, Labor Committee, Detroit Council National Negro Congress

Introductory Remarks James Walker
Chairman, Labor Committee, Detroit Council National Negro Congress

Greetings Al Renner
State Vice-President, Hotel and Restaurant Employees Alliance AFL

Selection Dupre Victorian Choir

Greetings George F. Addes
Secretary-Treasurer, United Automobile Workers - C. I. O.

Greetings from National Labor Council—NNC Charles Collins
Vice-President, Local 6, Hotel and Club Employees Union - AFL (New York, New York)

PAUL ROBESON

Presentation Joseph Irvin
Department Committeeman, Local 101 United Rubber Workers C. I. O.

Auspices: Labor Committee, Detroit Council National Negro Congress
James Walker, Chairman George Harrison, Secretary

14

G.I.R.-5

RECORDED
& INDEXED
EX-6

100-12304-53
F B I

31 FEB 7 1947

214

57 FEB 17 1947

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP5 RJC/cum

[REDACTED]
Elberton, Ga., Feb. 15, 1947

U4
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

G. I. R. -8

Gentlemen:

I happened to tune in on a broadcast this afternoon made from somewhere in Canada by Paul Robeson (I am not sure of the spelling, but the Negro singer). *Mr. [unclear]*

It contained some very broad statements. They seemed critical of our form of government though couched in words that were supposed to be calm and in the interest of peace.

I am just an average American housewife interested in keeping check on those who speak to the public. I wish you would have someone listen in on future broadcasts to get a first hand impression and then take what course you may deem wise.

Very truly yours,
[REDACTED]

*Roby
2-28-47
AFL*

EX-1

RECORDED
&
INDEXED
311

100-12304-54
F B I
36 FEB 19 1947

Thompson

215
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 RSC/CLM

February 28, 1947

[REDACTED]
Elberton, Georgia

Dear [REDACTED]

I have your letter dated February 15, 1947. Your interest in writing me as you did and bringing this information to my attention is indeed appreciated. You may be sure that the matter referred to in your letter will receive appropriate consideration.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 7
APR 1 1947 P.M.
100-12304-54
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP5 RAB/cw

MAR 8 - 1947 U

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100-12304-55
SAC, New York
Director - FBI

31540

February 28, 1947

ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON, wa
SECURITY MATTER - C

For your information there are attached hereto photostatic copies of a report which has been submitted to the Bureau by a Confidential Informant in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on February 2, 1947.

Attachment
100-12304

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1-177
2-177

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/2/80 BY SP5 RSC/KUM

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 7
★ FEB 23 1947 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JEM:MTP

11 1947

Handwritten signatures and initials, including "JEM" and "SP5 RSC/KUM".

21

MRS. PAUL ROBESON

31541

[Handwritten signature]
Pittsburgh, Pa.,
February 2, 1947.

Mrs. Paul Robeson, wife of Paul Robeson, the concert singer, spoke before 500 people today in the A. Lee Hall School at 4:00 P. M. Her subject was "Negroes and the Pattern of World Affairs." She was introduced by Mr. Paul Simon.

Mrs. Robeson is a slightly built colored lady, stands very straight and has a lot of personality. She is also attractive. Mr. Simon said Mrs. Robeson speaks in universal terms that can be applied anywhere in this world. He said there are 150 petitions concerning Negroes and Jews up before the 'Human Rights Committee' at the present time.

Mrs. Robeson said she was here for the East-West Association. She said she is an old friend of Pearl Buck, the founder of East-West Association. She said Miss Buck, a short time ago, had said there should be a series of lectures on people and world affairs. Mrs. Robeson thought that a good idea and that that would be a good way to present the Negroes' problem. Miss Buck invited Mrs. Robeson to present a lecture on Negroes so that was how she came to be a lecturer and how she came to be in Pittsburgh this afternoon. The old prejudices and minority feelings already discussed would be talked over further. The speaker said the African problem was similar to the colored problem here, that to know Africa we have to study Africa as it was and as it is. She said there are 12,000,000 acres in Africa and 150,000,000 population, but northern coast Africa belong to the African people. It is divided among French, Italian, British, Belgian and Portuguese. There are 4,000,000 white Europeans in Africa who rule for their own pleasure and profit. There is double talk of Europeans insisting that Africa is backward and the Europeans were helping them to religion and culture. That was 100 years ago.

He said that during the war people came to know what occupied countries endured. The war called them to fight but not to speak, that they have no voice in U.N.O., yet Russia and China have spoken up for the Negro. There is a request for Southwest Africa to join the rest of Africa but since 1900 Britain has refused to turn over her rich lands to Africa.

Continuing, Mrs. Robeson said the Land Acts limit where the negro can live, that negroes are required to carry 12 different documents at all times, that he is not allowed to do highly skilled work and Africans can be removed any time, anywhere for any reason. The request for incorporation was refused by U.N.O. so they are a race with no voice, however, the speaker said, Africa was better off than before occupation. That Africa had civilization for thousands of years and it was superior to European pre-civilization. There were drafts and skills and they ruled themselves. They were agricultural and pastoral. They were communal, had exchange economy at the center of African life was the village. Rubber was collected by Negroes for Europeans, roads were built by negroes for the Europeans. Backward areas were neglected. Direct laborers, exploitation made for the breakdown in morale and the population. The young men had to leave home to work in mines and on lands. She said Europe imposed a head tax which each had to pay and they had to leave their homes and families and work for the white people to get this tax money. She said, so, it was no wonder Africa revolted with weapons they had, 'bows and arrows'. There were too many casualties from fighting so they decided to wait until arms could be found.

Mrs. Robeson's words were enthusiastically received by the audience.
RECORDED
INDEXED

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 RSG/MLM

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and South Africa. Scandals gradually penetrated to the outside. People were becoming as important as resources. This exploitation was bad and the world was becoming interested.

31542

The speaker said Dual-Mandates have the responsibility to develop (originated not to help but to introduce colonization) but, under poor treatment, Africans arrived at a revolutionary state but not by statesmen helping. She said the March of Time forced the issue and the need for plane bases helped force the issue. The speaker stated that Congo was nearly unknown to the world before the war, but as the war progressed, Africa became a more strategic land location and it was then that the mother countries came to depend on her colonies, that French Congo became home base for the Free French forces and, as a result, radical changes came to the Congo people. African labor built roads and conditions improved. Also, African labor manned machines in factories, African teachers taught schools, African medical assistants worked at X-Ray photography and Africans worked and fought in the army. Therefore, it was no wonder a negro was appointed Governor General for the first time in history. All this brought about a revolution in thinking and planning and general contributions to the welfare of the colored man and the colored man became aware of his unjustified low position. Felix Eboué and Pierre Fianang greatly helped bring about these changes.

Mrs. Robeson spoke of Mandate changes and said the African Trade Unions were made lawful. Africans now can attain full university degrees and they can be represented in the Councils. Further, the low wage level was raised by the Government of India. They are arranging to secure trained social workers for diet, housing, child care and recreation. They were backward for years and years but they are slowly rising from their backwardness. Africans now are citizens and are realizing their potentialities.

The speaker said World Powers feel that Colonization cannot continue in the modern world and so colonization officials have been careful to not let people know what colonization means. The colored people were taken over by foreign colonizers. The white population is less than 1/15 of Africa's population. The "whites" think the "Blacks" exist only to serve them. The whites have no regard for the welfare of the colored people. Colonizers came to Africa from their home countries and there they lived on a much higher scale and with less personal effort to get it than they could in their mother country, yet, if you are in a colony 'a black' you compose 14/15 of the population but you must pay head tax which has no benefits. You have malaria or hookworm yet you get little care. (The infant mortality is one in three). You have no voice or vote in the government, your only hope lies in the fact that your group constitutes a very large group of this world's people. The speaker said this picture doesn't make sense. People everywhere fight for freedom. Africans are pressing for their freedom, the South Pacific is pressing for its freedom, Mississippi is fighting for her democratic rights and conservative people can see that colonizing must go, but, they only have in mind that it will be in fifty or one hundred years. Mrs. Robeson said with these four ways it can be attained,

1. Direct Representation
2. Self Government
3. Self Determination
4. Mandate all colonies in the world so that, Mrs. Robeson said, all nations can bring themselves to self government and grant independence to these colonies in the form of a Trustee ship.

Mrs. Robeson further said that the future of Africa is bound up with the future of 'one-world' and to have peace all must have the rights of democratic freedom (health, work and fun) and we won't have peace until this is accomplished.

219

In the question and answer period, the following took place:

Q. What is the Council of Churches doing in Africa?

A. Mrs. Robeson said she didn't know of this organization or their work, but could tell about the work of missionaries. She said she attended the first post-war conference of missionaries and she further said the only education in Africa has been imparted by the missionaries. These good people are not sure how to treat these educated blacks but they are gradually accepting them on friendly terms.

Q. Will Eritrea go back to Ethiopia?

A. This was black colonization. Ethiopia should work out a Democratic government.

Q. What are the prospects of colored missionaries entering French and British possessions?

A. Africa is worried about lack of colored missionaries. There is growing interest among negroes about this. The problem was that the Colonial Officials didn't want modern negro missionaries (that's us) coming into the African negro and educating him to his misfortune.

Q. Are there important social and economic changes in land under British control?

A. Yes, there is more representation. In Nigeria, cocoa growers and trade unions had a successful strike. More colored people are on the Council and to write to 25 West 26th St., New York City for more information on this.

Q. How have Mandates overcome cheap labor in colonies?

A. The employers are directly responsible to U.N.O. so that all transactions are open to inspection. When this legal ground is achieved they will have something to work with. The rest of the colonies have to be forced into the U.N.O. Jan Smuts tried to force the unionization of parts of Africa, at the same time, Britains are nation living banks and mines. India has independence and Burma is being granted independence. (Mrs. Robeson thinks Jan Smuts is an 'old goat'.)

Q. Is the African Negro under the influence of whites still trying to develop cultures.

A. This development is very important, as to how it can be done with the most possible help, appreciation, dignity, their stories, philosophy and songs. Europeans have tried to wipe it out, but have not been successful.

She said the Soviet Union has a great variety of people and they have done the opposite of Americans, for, Russia helps people to retain and develop their individuality and the people become 100% citizens and are rooted in their own background and are absorbed into the Soviet Union.

Q. Isn't Jan Smuts destroying colonies and putting Communists in jail?

A. He is a complete dictator.

220

31544

Q. Are you a Communist?

A. Mrs. Robeson said she wasn't a Communist but was interested in what they are doing.

Ninety percent of those in attendance were colored.

The speech was entirely read by Mrs. Robeson.

PAUL ROBESON
Internal Security - C

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

March 14, 1947

For your information there is set forth hereinafter information received by the State Department and forwarded to the Bureau.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

CLASS. & EXT. BY 43 K2
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 11/2/90

J. Tolson
 E. A. Tamm
 Clegg
 Glavin
 Ladd
 Nichols
 Rosen
 Tracy
 Carson
 Egan
 Gurnea
 Harbo
 Hendon
 Pennington
 Quinn Tamm
 Tels. Room
 Nease
 Miss Beahm
 Miss Gandy

MAR 14 1947 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FBI

68 MAR 19 1947

CONFIDENTIAL

MAY 14 1977

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To protect information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to Executive Order 12065.



For your information: _____



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Bureau file 100-12304-56 (page 2)

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22

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

March 20, 1947

SAC, New York

RECORDED

Director, FBI

PAUL ROBESON

INTERNAL SECURITY - C

100-72304-57

G.I.R.-3

Attachment

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RSC/CUM
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 3
DATE OF REVIEW 11/21/90

JEM:MJP

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OTHERWISE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

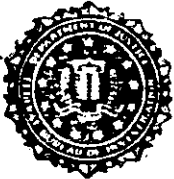
MAILED 5
MAR 20 1947 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

65 MAR 31 1947

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.



IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO

FILE NUMBER _____

March 7, 1947.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation,
U.S. Department of Justice,
WASHINGTON, D.C. U.S.A.

Re: Paul Robeson

Dear Sir, *Internal Security - C*

11/21/80
CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RJC/KMK
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 11/21/90

for sync
2/20/47
Reviewed
Classified by 2650
Exempt from GDS, Category 1
Date of Declassification Indefinite
AUG 01 1977

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(c) The above is forwarded for information purposes. (u)

Very truly yours,

[REDACTED]

u b7C
b7D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

March 20, 1947

100-12304-58
To: Mr. Jack D. Neal
Chief, Division of Foreign Activity Correlation
State Department
Room 301, 515 22nd Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES - British Columbia

Reference is made to the memorandum of March 4, 1947, your file
842.003/2-2047 from Mr. H.J. Cummings, Acting Chief, Division of Foreign
Activity Correlation.

For your information the FBI is interested in the activities of
Paul Robeson while he is in Canada. If you will kindly forward the data
gathered by you while Robeson is in Canada, it would be greatly appreciated.

JEW:acp

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 RSB/CLM

63 APR 1 1947

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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105
X

SAC, New York

March 28, 1947

Director, FBI

PAUL ROBESON, was
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

RECORDED

100-12304-59

For your information there is attached hereto a photostatic
EX - 73 copy of a report received by the Bureau from the State Department
concerning the captioned individual.

JEM:aop

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 RSK/km

G.I.R. -1

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION	
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

MAILED 6
★ MAR 29 1947 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

APR 16 1947 763

RECEIVED READING ROOM
MAR 28 3 09 PM '47
JEM

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☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

Bureau file 100-12304-59 (enclosure)

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: April 10, 1947

FROM : SAC, New Haven

SUBJECT: ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON, aka Mrs. Paul Leo
Robeson, Essie Robeson
SECURITY MATTER (C)

Reference is made to the closing report of Special Agent [REDACTED] made at New Haven on April 10, 1947 in the above captioned matter.

In view of the fact that there is no evidence that Mrs. ROBESON is presently active in Communist Party affairs, the Bureau may desire to give consideration to the withdrawal of the Security Index Card on the subject.

JTH:ML
100-8032

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/50 BY SP5 RSB/kum

RECORDED

EX-68

APR 12 1947

Cancelled
5-9-47

Attended, New Haven
5-27-47
58 JUN 3 1947/03

231

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW HAVEN, CONN.**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FILE NO. **100-8032 ML**

REPORT MADE AT NEW HAVEN, CONN.	DATE WHEN MADE 4/10/47	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4/5/47	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7c
TITLE ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON, aka Mrs. Paul Leo Robeson, Essie Robeson			CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER (C)

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Birth date noted on SE card 5-9-47

Background information on Mrs. ROBESON ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED set forth. She has denied that she or her husband are members of the Communist Party. No indication that subject is active in Communist Party affairs in the New Haven Field Division.

G.I.R. 5

REFERENCE: BUREAU FILE 100-12304.
SAC Letter No. 28 of 1946;
Report of Special Agent **[REDACTED]** made at New Haven on April 6, 1944. b7c

DETAILS: A review of the files of the New Haven Field Division reveal the following background information on the subject:

Name: Mrs. PAUL ROBESON; born, Washington, D. C., December 15, 1895;
Mother: **ESLANDA CARDOZA**, born South Carolina;
Father: **JOHN J. GOODE**, born Illinois;
Race: Negro
Marital Status: Married - Married 1921;
Husband: **PAUL LEROY ROBESON**, born April 9, 1898, Princeton, New Jersey;
Husband's parents: Father - born North Carolina;
Mother - born in United States.

The October 6, 1944 issue of the Hartford Times carried a statement made by Mrs. ROBESON in answer to a claim made by J. B. MATTHEWS, Research Director for the Dies Committee on Un-American Affairs, to the effect that **PAUL ROBESON** was a Communist. According to this

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau 2 New Haven APR 12 1947	100-12304-61
	CONFIDENTIAL
	CLASS. & EXT. BY <i>SP-5 RSC/CM</i> REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 DATE OF REVIEW <i>11/27/90</i>

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

article Mrs. ROBESON branded as "absurdly foolish" such charges and declared, "I recognize the noise that you hear every time you to anything that is even remotely intelligent. They used to call us 'black' but now they call us 'red'".

The Stamford Advocate on October 24, 1944 published an article stating that Mrs. PAUL ROBESON was a sponsor of a State-wide meeting of the Colored Democratic Federation of Connecticut, which meeting was held in New Haven.

On [REDACTED] T-1 advised that MURRAY CITLIN, one of the leaders of the American Youth for Democracy, was considering asking Mrs. ROBESON to speak at one of their meetings. He mentioned that Mrs. ROBESON'S son, PAUL ROBESON, JR., was a member of the American Youth for Democracy. b7D

On May 15, 1946 the Hartford Times in an article stated that Mrs. ROBESON on May 14, 1946 in the absence of her husband addressed a "Peace and Security" rally held at the New Haven Arena under the sponsorship of the Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions. In her address Mrs. ROBESON scored colonization as the blight of democracy. She further stated that all subject peoples should be given the right of self-determination and that all colonies in the world should be mandated to the United Nations.

T-2 advised that on the afternoon of February 2, 1947 Mrs. ROBESON addressed a group of approximately 500 people at the A. Leo Weil School in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Her speech, which she read in its entirety, was on the topic, "Negroes and the Pattern of World Affairs". In her introductory remarks Mrs. ROBESON advised that she was an old friend of Pearl Buck, founder of the East-West Association and that she was appearing at the lecture for the East-West Association. She remarked that "during the war people came to know what occupied countries endured. The war called on them to fight but not to speak, that they have no voice in the UNO, yet Russia and China have spoken up for the Negro. There is a request for Southwest Africa to join the rest of Africa, but since 1909 Britain has refused to turn over her rich lands to Africa."

Mrs. ROBESON stated that since the world powers feel that colonization cannot continue in the modern world, colonization officials had been careful not to show what colonization means. She pointed out that even though African natives had a civilization before being subdued by the "whites" now a white population totalling less than one-fifteenth of the entire population of Africa exploits the Negroes. She further stated that although forced to pay a "head tax" the native African receives little or no benefit from such tax.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 233

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

She affirmed that there are four ways in which freedom can be obtained:

1. Direct representation;
2. Self-government;
3. Self-determination;
4. Mandate all colonies in the world so that all nations can bring themselves to self-government and grant independence to those colonies in the form of a Trusteeship.

She claimed that the future of Africa was bound up with the future of a "one world" and that peace will not be accomplished until all nations have the rights of democratic freedom; namely, health, work and fun.

Following the meeting there was a question and answer period in which Mrs. ROBESON claimed that the Europeans have tried to wipe out the native African cultures while "the Soviet Union has a great variety of people and they have done the opposite of Americans for Russia helps people to retain and develop their individuality and the people become 100% citizens and are rooted in their own background and are absorbed into the Soviet Union".

In answer to a question as to whether JAN SMUTS was destroying colonies and putting Communists in jail, she replied, "He is a complete dictator". Replying to a direct question, "Are you a Communist", Mrs. ROBESON answered that she wasn't a Communist but was interested in what they are doing.

Informants of the New Haven Field Division familiar with Communist Party affairs have not indicated that the subject is active in the affairs of this organization at the present time. In view of this inactivity, this case is being closed. Appropriate stops have been placed with these informants so that any activity on the part of Mrs. ROBESON in the future will be brought to the attention of the New Haven Field Division.

C L O S E D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NH 100-8032

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

IDENTITY OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

RE: REPORT MADE AT NEW HAVEN, CONN., 4/10/47 BY SA [REDACTED]
IN CASE OF ESIANDA GOODE ROBESON, SECURITY MATTER - C.

~~CONF. INFO~~

T-1 - [REDACTED]

T-2 - [REDACTED]

b7C

b1

c

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

235

Peoria, Illinois
April 18, 1947

31546

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director:
Washington, D.C.

G.I.R.-5

Dear Sir:

Information has come to me that Paul Robeson was to have appeared at the Shrine Mosque on a program, the Shrine Mosque supposed to have cancelled his date of appearance, because his views were supposed to have not been within the views of the United States Government. Other words Paul Robeson is supposed to be a Subversive.

After the cancellation at the Shrine Mosque, Mayor Triebel Mayor of the City of Peoria, Ill. was supposed to have offered Paul Robeson the use of a room in the City Hall for his appearance. Stating the reason, that the said; Paul Robeson had a right to be allowed that privilege as to FREE, or Public Speech etc.

I have contacted various persons connected with the work against Subversive activities, and have been told that some of them are going to take the matter up, to see what can be done to prevent Mayor Carl Triebel from allowing this man Paul Robeson the use of the room in the City Hall, for his appearance.

I have also been advised that Mayor Triebel claims now, that it was not him, who offered the use of the City Hall room to Paul Robeson for his appearance, but some of the Aldermen who was supposed to have offered Paul Robeson the use of the City Hall room.

If Paul Robeson is allowed to appear, and allowed the use of the City Hall room, it is going to cause a feeling against Mayor Carl Triebel and the City Hall, and the City of Peoria, Ill. by persons who are loyal Americans and do not believe the way that this Paul Robeson is supposed to believe. Therefore every effort should be used to prevent Mayor Carl Triebel and the City Aldermen from allowing Paul Robeson the use of the City Hall room for his appearance.

The American Legion and other groups on un-American activities have been consulted on this matter.

Yours very truly

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 RSG/CM

Peoria, Ill.

236

31545

May 7, 1947

[REDACTED]
Peoria, Illinois

Dear [REDACTED]

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated April 18, 1947, which has been given careful consideration here.

In view of the fact that the jurisdiction of this Bureau is strictly investigative, I am unable to take any action in the matter which you mentioned. I do want to thank you, [REDACTED] for writing me as you have.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

cc - SAC, Springfield

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 RJS/GH

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 10 1947
100-12304-62
EX-65 BH:mb
Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

50 MAY 19 1947

R-143

Quito

Davis

237

April 24, 1947

SAC, New York

Director, FBI

ORDER

100-12304-63
PAUL ROBESON, was
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Attached for your information is a copy of a communication dated February 20, 1947, received from the State Department.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 RSB/MLM

Attachment	
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION	
Tolson	
E. A. Tamm	
Clegg	
Glavin	
Ladd	
Nichols	
Tracy	
Carson	
Connelley	
Harbo	
Quinn Tamm	
Nease	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

JEM:rb F.D. 6
APR 25 1947 P.M.
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
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58 MAY 31 1947

APR 25 11 19 AM '47

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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APR 25 1947
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
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238

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005 84
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

APR 18 1947

TELETYPE

Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Mr. Gandy

Paul Robeson to Ladd
FBI SPRINGFIELD

4-18-47

8-18 PM CST MC

DIRECTOR

U R G E N T

POSSIBLE RACIAL DISTURBANCE, CIVIL RIGHTS, PEORIA, ILLINOIS.

PAUL ROBESON, COLORED SINGER SCHEDULED TO APPEAR AT PEORIA TONIGHT.

INFORMATION RECEIVED RE POSSIBLE RACIAL DIFFICULTY AS RESULT.

RESIDENT AGENTS ALERTED. BUREAU WILL BE ADVISED.

WHELAN

END

ACK PLS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 RSG/CM

RECORDED
INDEXED

100-12304-64
FBI
15 APR 24 1947
cc Mr. Ladd

9-19 PM OK FBI WASH DC VH

03 MAY 3 1947 210

240

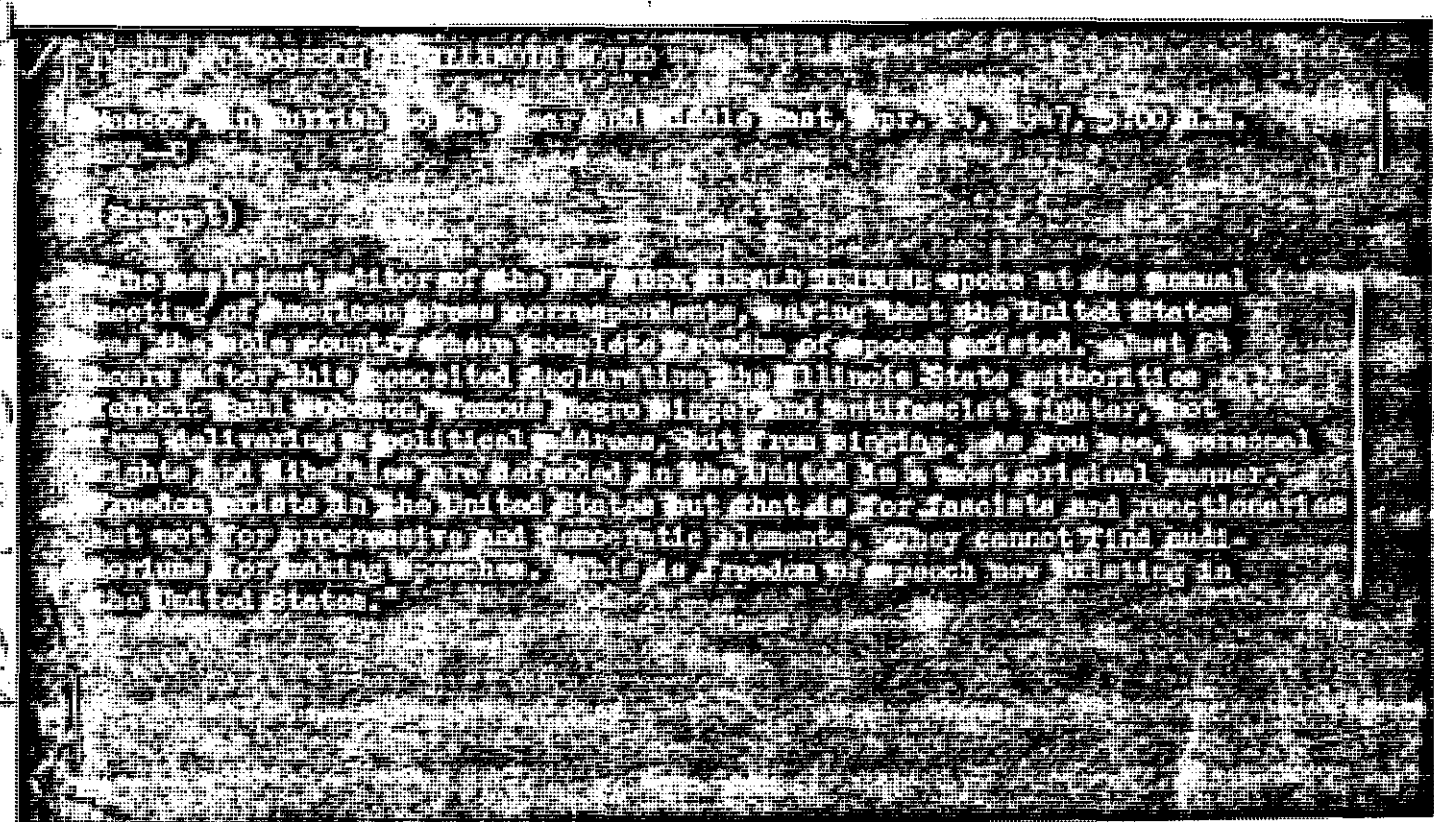
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see index

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GLR-2

PAUL ROEBSON



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DATE 11/2/80 BY SP-5 RSG/KW

RECORDED
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100-12304-64X

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510CT3 1947

Foreign Radio Broadcast # 46

4/28/47

241.

●

References

**SOCIAL IMAGE CREATED BY PAUL ROBERTSON'S
RECORDED APPEARANCE AT PEORIA, ILLINOIS**

BY SPECIAL REQUEST

It is believed that you will be interested in the following information.

(b) The rally written by April 19, 1947, reflects that a concert scheduled by Paul Robeson at Peoria, Illinois, was called off by the City Council. Paul Robeson, according to the article, in a telephone statement to the Council on African Affairs, New York City, assailed the Peoria City Council which had unanimously adopted a resolution condemning an appearance there of "any speaker or artist who is an avowed active propagandist for un-American ideology." According to the article, Mayor W. O. Fliegel had reversed an earlier approval for the use of the City Hall which was to be used for the reception of Paul Robeson by a citizen's committee. The Mayor's reversal, according to the article, was based on his fear of "riots or disturbances." In a statement the Mayor had inferred that "Robeson is coming here for 'light' because the singer had told the press of threats he had received. According to this article Paul Robeson made the statement that he did "not intend to be ill-used" and expressed conviction that "Peoria citizens, feeling as I do, will contribute their own feelings against the un-American assault in their own way."

Through a reliable and confidential source it was ascertained that [redacted] a special conference was held at [redacted] which was participated in by leading Communists of the Chicago area, including Gilbert Green, Chairman of District No. 8 of the Communist Party, and William L. Patterson, Negro, Second Vice Chairman of District No. 8. According to his informant, William L. Patterson, who, it is known, visited Pearl, Illinois, placed the other Communist officials present that he saw more guns down there among our people than he ever had before and that they expected violence. Alvin Karpis, First Vice Chairman of District No. 8, asked Patterson if some of the [redacted] he had guns and Patterson said that everybody had a gun.

It is not known if Patterson referred to Communist Party members when he used the words "among our people," or whether he referred to negroes in Pearlis, as much as Patterson is a negro.

The Ministerial Association at Peoria has invited Paul Robeson to appear in Peoria at some future date and he will be allowed the use of a church for a speech allegedly against "Peoria Fascism."

If any additional information concerning the above is obtained, it will be reported to you immediately.

SENT FROM D

TIME 23/12

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1947

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100-62304-68

FORMATION
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29
DECLASSIFIED BY 6080 JEP
DATE 11/19/77

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 11/21/80 BY SP5 RSC

SPS-RSG/CD

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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EVERETT M. DIRKSEN
18TH DISTRICT ILLINOIS

HOME ADDRESS:
PEKIN, ILLINOIS

JOHN R. GOMIEN
SECRETARY

COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
JOINT LEGISLATIVE BUDGET

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D. C.

May 6, 1947

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover,
Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Can you examine the attached letter and send
me an answer to question number one and also number
three, if possible, as set forth on page two? This
matter has stirred up considerable interest in
Peoria.

You can return the file with your reply.

Sincerely,

Everett M. Dirksen
Everett M. Dirksen

Enclosure

ack. 5/9/47 containing original (copy made for our file)
20

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 01/21/80 BY SP-5 RJS/CML

R31

1947

100-12304-67

244

G.I.R.-9

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b7c

COPY

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Roy B. Tisdell Post 537
207 South Globe Street
Peoria, Illinois

April 24, 1947

Dear Ev.:

I am very much in need of your assistance and advice in a matter that has arisen here in Peoria, namely the appearance of Paul Robeson here to render a concert in the Shrine Mosque, April 16th.

I deem it unnecessary to take step by step as to what has happened here, because I am well aware that you read both of our newspapers the Peoria Star and Journal-Transcript.

One, Mr. Cannon, assistant music instructor at Bradley, booked Mr. Robeson for a concert on the above mentioned date. The ticket sale to this affair went along as usual and on April 12th, Mr. Cannon called in my office for information as to whether one Mr. Robeson was branded by my group as a Communist, and what steps we were taking in the stoppage of the sale of tickets. I informed him that we had no knowledge of any subversive activities on the part of Mr. Robeson, therefore, could not give him any information, other than it was a custom to buy tickets at the last minute due to our financial status.

On Monday, April 14, Mr. Gomer Bath began a campaign in the Peoria Star to arouse public sentiment against Mr. Robeson. Here he cited some of the supposed incidents that occurred to prove his statements.

1. Robeson sang Russian National Anthem in Los Angeles and dedicated it to Eisler.
2. Robeson is supposed to be affiliated with 34 Communistic organizations.
3. The fact that Robeson's son attended Russian schools.

Withstanding these three items mentioned, true or false, I sincerely doubt the legality of the Mayor-Carl O. Trieble and his 20 Aldermen of branding one Paul Robeson of being a Communist and closing all public buildings to his appearance. I contend that it is an abuse of the Civil Liberties law together with the destruction of the Constitution of the United States.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 RSC/clm

100 - 12304 - 67

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COPIES DESTROYED 5-1-18

Ev., I've stated the facts openly and honestly, at this point I ask you to lend your assistance as a Representative of our form of government, and the people of the 16th Congressional District.

1. I want you to get a report from the F.B.I. on one Paul Robeson.
2. A report from the Committee Investigating Un-American Activities.
3. If Paul Robeson has ever been accused by either of these committees and what disposal was made of the accusation, if any.

Ev., these questions are very important in this community because of the fact that I taken a stand in Robeson's behalf, based on the Civil Liberties law, which deem is my duty.

I am enclosing a copy of my statement to the press, [REDACTED] but withstanding this fact they attempt to bring pressure that I denounce Robeson as a Communist, which I believe an un-American act. I await your reply together with the material pertaining to the questions mentioned. b7c

I am also enclosing a statement of the People's Side of the Incident on Paul Robeson.

I assure you that this favor will be greatly appreciated.

Your Friend,

/s/ [REDACTED] b7c

Encl: 2
CAH/1

246

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : THE DIRECTOR

DATE: May 3, 1947

FROM : D. M. LADD

SUBJECT: RACIAL UNREST CREATED BY PAUL ROBESON'S
SCHEDULED APPEARANCE AT PEORIA, ILLINOIS

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

The Daily Worker of April 19, 1947, reflects that a concert scheduled by Paul Robeson at Peoria, Illinois, was called off by the City Council. Paul Robeson, according to the article, in a telephone statement to the Council on African Affairs, New York City, assailed the Peoria City Council which had unanimously adopted a resolution condemning an appearance there of "any speaker or artist who is an avowed or active propagandist for un-American ideology." According to the article, Mayor Carl O. Triebel had reversed an earlier approval for the use of the City Hall which was to be used for the reception of Paul Robeson by a citizen's committee. The Mayor's reversal, according to the article, was based on his fear of "riots or disturbances." In a statement the Mayor had inferred that "Robeson is coming here for a fight" because the singer had told the press of threats he had received. According to this article Paul Robeson made the statement that he did "not intend to be bullied" and expressed conviction that "Peoria citizens, feeling as I do, will demonstrate their own feelings against the un-American assault in their own way."

it was ascertained that several officials of the Communist Party in Chicago discussed the reaction of the people in Peoria after the scheduled singing engagement of Paul Robeson was banned and he was refused the use of the Peoria Public Hall which is operated by the City of Peoria, Illinois. Among those Communist officials present were Gilbert Green, Chairman of District No. 8; Alfred Wagenknecht, First Vice Chairman; William L. Patterson, negro, Second Vice Chairman, and Jim Keller, Organizer. William L. Patterson, according to [redacted] who it is known visited Peoria, Illinois, advised the other Communist officials present that he saw more guns down there "among our people" than he ever had before and that they expected violence. Alfred Wagenknecht asked Patterson if some of the boys had guns and Patterson said that everybody had a gun.

It is not known if Patterson referred to Communist Party members when he used the words "among our people," or whether he referred to negroes in Peoria, inasmuch as Patterson is a negro.

The Ministerial Association at Peoria has invited Paul Robeson to appear again in Peoria at some future date and he will be allowed the use of a church to make a speech allegedly against "Peoria Fascism."

RECOMMENDATION:

Inasmuch as the above incident almost caused a riot, it is being brought to your attention. There is attached for your approval a letter to the Attorney General and a letter to MID with copies for ONI, also bringing this information to their attention.

HOB:mod

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

CLP-9

INDEXED

100-12304-68

247

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : D. M. Ladd

FROM : E. G. Fitch

SUBJECT: PAUL ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

DATE: May 8, 1947

██████████ Passport Division, State Department,
called Mr. Roach this morning to supply the following information concern-
ing Paul Robeson.

He stated that Robeson had made application for United States passport to proceed to Panama, Cuba and Mexico. He stated that his address as listed on the passport application was Enfield, Connecticut and that his passport should be sent to him in care of George McGee, 22 East 89th Street, New York City. He stated that he desired to leave New York City on or about May 22, 1947 and would travel to Panama via Miami by commercial airlines. He anticipates being absent for approximately one month from the United States.

██████████ stated that unless some Governmental agency raised some objection, a passport would be issued.

RECOMMENDATION

It is suggested this memorandum be referred to the Internal Security Section for its information.

REH:OLE
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letter 5/22/47
g l m.

RECORDED
&
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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5
RSG/cum

1100-12384-69
12 MAY 14 1947

SAC, New York

May 22, 1947

Director, FBI

Paul Robeson
Internal Security - C

For your information, the Bureau has received information from the State Department that the subject has made application for a U. S. passport to proceed to Panama, Cuba and Mexico. His address listed on the application was Enfield, Connecticut. He requested that his passport be sent to him in care of George McGee, 22 East 89th Street, New York City. He stated that he desires to leave New York City on or about May 22, 1947, and would travel to Panama via Miami on commercial airlines. He stated that he anticipates being absent for approximately one month from the United States.

RECORDED

100-12304-69

EX-55 JEM:MH

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 11/2/18 BY SP-5 RJG/ML

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 5
MAY 22 1947 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

33 MAY 27 1947

249

SAC, Honolulu

May 6, 1947

Director, FBI

COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
13th DISTRICT
HONOLULU FIELD DIVISION
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Reurlet April 24, 1947, wherein you requested the Bureau to advise you what degree of coverage, if any, is desired of Paul Robeson's activities during the period of time that he is in Hawaii.

In this connection, for your information, it will be sufficient for you to advise the Bureau of the information appearing in the press concerning Robeson together with information received from your informants as to any contacts he makes with known members of the Communist Party.

~~100-12304-70~~

100-12304

JEM:bb

RECORDED | 100-12304-70
F B I
51 MAY 10 1947

EX-21

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 RJB/clm

R53

25

no. 10
May 10, 1947
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP5 RSC/llm

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

In view of our relationship with Congressman Dirksen, I think the attached information should be furnished to him preferably by personal delivery on the part of someone such as Hugh Clegg, who knows him. All the information contained in the attached memorandum concerning Paul Robeson is public source material. There is the possibility that Congressman Dirksen's correspondent, [redacted] in Peoria, will quote this information as coming from the FBI. I think, consequently, in delivering the material to Congressman Dirksen, we should suggest that neither he nor his constituent should indicate the source from which this information was received.

Respectfully,

Edw. A. Tamm

Attachment
EAT

RECORDED

63 MAY 27 1947
5/10

Should be deleted out any letter from the FBI 5-8-47

Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓
Mr. Clegg ✓
Mr. Glavin ✓
Mr. Ladd ✓
Mr. Nichols ✓
Mr. Rosen ✓
Mr. Tracy ✓
Mr. Carson ✓
Mr. Egan ✓
Mr. Gurnea ✓
Mr. Harbo ✓
Mr. Hendon ✓
Mr. Pennington ✓
Mr. Quinn Tamm ✓
Mr. Nease ✓
Miss Gandy ✓

Delivered to Dirksen with personally request that he return to me confidentially 5-10-47

May 9, 1947

PAUL ROBESON

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/2/80 BY SP5 RJS/CM

Background

"Who's Who for 1946 and 1947" has the following biographical data concerning Robeson:

He is a concert singer and an actor. He was born at Princeton, New Jersey, on April 9, 1898, the son of William Drew Robeson and Anna Louisa (Bustill). He received his A.B. degree at Rutgers College in 1919, and LL.B. from Columbia University in 1923, an honorary L.H.D. at Hamilton College in 1940, an honorary M.A. at Rutgers University in 1932, an honorary L.H.D. at Moorehouse College, 1943, and an honorary doctor's degree in humane letters at Howard University in 1945. He married Eslanda Cardoza Goode on August 17, 1921. He has one son, Paul Robeson, Jr. From 1923 until the present time he has appeared in numerous stage plays. He is a member of the Phi Beta Kappa, the Alpha Phi Alpha and Sigma Tau Delta fraternities. Robeson was a four-letter man while at Rutgers University and was picked by Walter Camp on his All-American football team as an end. His home is in Enfield, Connecticut. He gives his New York address as, in care of Robert Rockmore, 10 East 40th Street, New York, New York.

The Current Biography for 1941, on page 717, has the following to say concerning Robeson:

"The racial problem is one that Robeson has studied thoroughly. It was racial discrimination as much as his own acting ability that caused him to give up his career as a lawyer. He sent his son to school in the USSR because he thought the boy could grow up normally there.....He frequently speaks out on political issues in which he feels his race is deeply involved. In the summer of 1940, he was opposing conscription, speaking for peace, later urging all Negroes in industry to join the United Automobile Workers of America in their Ford organizing drive, even later speaking and singing at benefits to aid Britain, China and the Soviet Union. He was called a radical."

Activities in Connection with Various Communist Front Organizations

The November 4, 1937, issue of the "Daily Worker," alleged official publication of the Communist Party, carried an article in which Robeson was quoted as saying, "When I step on to a stage in the future, I go on as a representative of the working class. I work with a consciousness of that in my mind." 100-12304-7- page 12

The "Daily Worker" of May 16, 1939, on page 1, pointed out that Robeson in an interview had stated that there was no discrimination in Soviet circles and that his son, who attended school in Russia, received a diploma from there. 100-12304-7, page 12

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

JEM:MR:edw

G.I.R.-9

100-12304-7125

The "People's World," alleged publication of the Communist Party on the West Coast, in its issue of December 26, 1941, said that Robeson was the featured speaker before a "Defend America Rally" held in Los Angeles, California on December 25, 1941. There were approximately 1,000 Negroes present. The rally was sponsored by the National Negro Congress among other groups. Robeson in his speech contrasted his experience in Nazi Germany in 1934, when he was menaced by Hitler's Storm Troopers with the reception he received in Russia. He said that in the USSR he found a complete absence of racial discrimination of any form which inspired him to send his son there to be educated. He urged unity of action on the part of all allies to defeat Hitler. 100-12304-17

The "Sunday Worker" of March 22, 1942, on page 2, section 2, and in column 1, carried the following comment made by Robeson ".....There can be no more honest evidence of a sincere desire to defeat Fascism along with the sending of tanks and if possible aid to the Soviet Union than by the freeing of Earl Browder so that he may take his rightful place in the vanguard of the cohorts against Fascism." 100-12304-3

A mass rally "Salute to Our Russian Ally" was held November 8, 1942, in the Madison Square Garden, New York. Robeson was introduced by the master of ceremonies by saying that "the next voice to be heard is the voice of the anti-Fascist." The spotlights were turned on Robeson and he said, "I am an anti-Fascist. I am an American. I am a Negro." He then proceeded to read out loud a letter written by a twenty-seven year old Red Army soldier, who said that he was "continually marching westward to freedom." Robeson added that the soldier was "my friend and yours." He said every place he appeared in the United States and had mentioned friendship with Russia and had sung the "Red Army Song," the audience had literally "broken it up." 100-12304-7

The "People's Voice," Harlem newspaper, for January 23, 1943, carried an advertisement urging the release of Professor Morris U. Schappes, alleged Communist of the City College of New York, who had been convicted of perjury. Robeson is quoted in this advertisement as saying, "I want to be identified in every way with this movement.....to free Morris Schappes.....This responsibility is the first charge upon all of us to fight Fascism for freedom." 100-12304-31, pg 2

The "Michigan Chronicle" of February 6, 1943, reported an interview with Robeson in which he stated that there was no racial discrimination in Russia. He said the people there learned to love and work for their government because it belonged to them. He justified sending his son to Russia so he "could feel freedom." 100-12304-9

On April 6, 1943, it was reported that a pamphlet of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, Incorporated, listed Robeson as a sponsor. Conf. Informant N NYC Office; 100-12304-31

The "Daily Worker" of July 4, 1943, on page 1, in column 3, shows the subject's picture along with that of Lieutenant Colonel Itzik Feffer and Moscow, Russia, City Councilman Solomon Michaels, whom Robeson had welcomed to New York City at a reception held at the Soviet Consulate in New York.

The "Daily Worker" of July 8, 1943, listed Robeson as a singer at a mass meeting to be held on that day at the Polo Grounds in New York City honoring the two above-mentioned Russians. 100-12304-31, pg 3

The "Daily Worker" of October 7, 1943, on page 3, indicates that Robeson supported Benjamin Davis on the Communist Party ticket for the position of Councilman on the New York City Council at the "Davis for Victory Show" held at the Golden Gate Ballroom in Harlem, New York City.

100-12304-31 pg 4

The "Daily Worker" of March 17, 1944, reported a speech made by Robeson at the Sun Yat-Sen tribute meeting at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York City, March 12, 1944. Robeson is quoted as having said, "The picture of China's internal conflict as the Koumintang against the Chinese Communists is as false as Martin Dies' picture of his committee defending Congress and the Government against the American Communists." The subject said that China was fighting Fascism with one arm tied inasmuch as the Communist led Eighth Route and the new Fourth Army were not allowed to cooperate with the regular Chinese Army. 100-12304-31, pg 7.

The April 5, 1944, issue of the "Daily Worker" said that tickets for the birthday party of the subject to be held on April 16, 1944, at the Armory, 34th Street and Park Avenue, New York, would be on sale at the Communist Political Association Bookshop and the Council on African Affairs, 23 West 26th Street, New York City, for \$1 to \$3 each. 100-12304-31

The "Daily Worker" of April 13, 1944, reflects an interview had with Robeson by Louise Mitchell. In this interview he is quoted as saying, "his birthday party was really to be a Council on African Affairs Party." He is quoted again as having said, "The postwar peace and prosperity rest on the constructive solutions of the problems of oppressed people everywhere." He said that the United States and Great Britain have realized that Mexico and South America want to be free, so, too, they will have to realize that 160 million Africans want equality. 100-12304-31, pg 7

The "Daily Worker" of April 16, 1944, in an article written by Samuel Putman on the life of the subject quotes the subject in describing his first visit to the USSR as having said, "How can I describe my feelings upon crossing the Soviet border. All I can say is that the moment I came there I realized that I had found what I had been seeking all my life. It was a new planet -- a new constellation. It filled me with such happiness as I have never known in my life."

100-12304-3, pg 8.

The magazine section of "The Worker" of April 16, 1944, in a story on Robeson's life said that he was an honorary member of the KKK; State, County and Municipal Workers of America, a predecessor to the present United Public Workers of America; the ILWU; and also a member of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade. 100-12304-11

The "Daily Worker" of February 13, 1945, reports that Robeson spoke at a meeting of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, California, at which time \$17,000 was raised. In his speech he is quoted as having said, "We are standing at the cross-roads of history. Something is wrong when such Fascists as Hearst are allowed to mislead and misinform the American people. The American people do not entirely understand that we can have Fascism here unless we learn to use our productive resources for the benefit of all the people. We can't wait for Fascism to die out and the oppressed peoples of the world will not wait. We must understand that we have already entered a changed world. We must have those 60 million jobs that Wallace speaks of. We must clean out our own Fascists." 100-12304-31, pg 11

The "Daily Worker" of March 12, 1945, carried an article datelined in San Francisco on that same date in which Robeson is reported to have urged former President Roosevelt to end the deportation case against Harry Bridges. In his letter to the President, which was quoted, he said, "Harry Bridges has stood steadfastly against discrimination, steadfastly for equal treatment, and all this without regard to his own personal fortunes." 100-12304-31 pg 12

The "Daily Worker" of April 17, 1945, carried an article to the effect that the Council on African Affairs headed by him had submitted a memorandum to the delegates of the United Nations Conference in San Francisco, calling for the establishment of an International Colonial Commission in the proposed world organization. 100-12304-31, pg. 13

The "Daily Worker" of May 16, 1945, carried an article in which it was pointed out that Robeson was to appear on a program entitled "Salute to the GI's of the United Nations" to be held on May 31, 1945, under the auspices of the National Council of American Soviet Friendship. The "Daily Worker" of June 1, 1945, said that Robeson sang Red Army songs at this meeting, which was held in Madison Square Garden, New York City.

The "Daily Worker" of September 30, 1945, said that Robeson had acted as Chairman of more than 1000 citizens in the Fine Arts field, who formed an organization known as the "Artists, Writers and Professional Division of the Ben J. Davis Non-Partisan Committee." The article quoted Robeson as having said, "His (Ben Davis) campaign belongs to the people, to all people -- white and negro, gentile and Jew, cutting across all boundaries and non-partisan politics, our Ben in the City Council. That means we're in there." 100-12304-40, pg 7

The "Daily Worker" of October 20, 1945, carried an article entitled, "Robeson Lauds Ben Davis for his Faith in his People." The article, among other things, stated that Robeson praised the Soviet Union for its destruction of Fascism and its fight against discrimination. 100-12304-40, pg. 9

The October 25, 1945, edition of the "Gazette" at Montreal, Canada, carried an article in which Robeson is quoted as having said, "If I have any followers, they will have to take what I have to say along with songs." The article continued and pointed out that the "burden of his propaganda is the saga of free men the world over." Robeson is quoted as having said that his "political opinions are well known." He said that he had urged the election of Fred Rose, Communist member of the Canadian Parliament. Of Franco, he said that he should hang, even if he is now supported by the United States, Great Britain and Canada. 100-12304-Sub A

The Pittsburgh "Courier" of October 27, 1945, carried an article which pointed out that Robeson was the thirtieth recipient of the "Spingarn Medal" annual award for outstanding achievement, presented by the NAACP. In his acceptance speech before several hundred notables in the Biltmore Hotel in New York, he voiced a frank and pronounced preference for Soviet principles, economic, political and social. He said, "The Soviet Union can't help it as a Nation and people if it is in the main stream of change." He warned against the rebuilding of Fascism, restoration of monarchies, and restoration of their estates to collaborators. He pointed out that the Russians have shown what backward peoples can accomplish in one generation of endeavor. He said, "Full employment in Russia is a fact and not a myth and discrimination is non-existent." 100-12304-35

The "People's Voice" of November 10, 1945, carried an article in which Robeson answered his Fascist critics. It was pointed out that in response to criticism of him in the Montreal "Gazette" for including in his concert a talk against Franco, he said, "They will have to take what I have to say along with my songs." 100-12304-40, pg 10

The "Daily Worker" of November 22, 1945, reports that he delivered an address at the Madison Square Garden in New York City on November 14, 1945, sponsored by the National Council of American Soviet Friendship on occasion of the 12th anniversary of the United States Soviet diplomatic relations. He said one of the greatest achievements of the USSR in 28 years was the attitude of democracy regardless of race, creed, color or nationality. He said there are no minorities there; instead, everyone is equal.

100-12304-Sub A

The "Daily Worker" of January 10, 1946, carried an article in which it was pointed out that the subject, the Chairman of the Council on African Affairs, spoke at a meeting on January 7, 1946, at the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem for the purpose of raising relief funds for the people of Africa.

100-12304-40, pg 11

The Seattle "Star" of February 12, 1946, reported an interview with Robeson in which he said his son, Paul, Jr., attended school in Russia from the 8th through the 13th year. He said, "My son is definitely the product of Soviet education." He continued and said, "I am well satisfied. The Russian standards are extremely high." 100-12304-38

The "Daily Worker" of March 5, 1946, listed Robeson among those acting as sponsors of a "National Mobilization in Washington" movement to be held April 5 through 7, 1946, to "Win the United States back to a genuine anti-Fascist foreign program." 100-12304-40, pg 11

The "People's Voice" of March 30, 1946, reported that Robeson spoke before a mass meeting at the Second Baptist Church in Los Angeles, California, that day which meeting was sponsored jointly by the Council on African Affairs and the "People's Daily World." Among other things, he called for aid and democratization for the colonial people of the world. 100-12304-Sub A

"The Worker" of September 1, 1946, said that the editors of "New Masses" had announced they would sponsor a production entitled, "Adventure Dramatic" at Carnegie Hall on September 22, 1946. Robeson reportedly would participate and combine his talents along with other artists in the stage production of "The Great Conspiracy Against Russia," by Albert Kahn and Michael Sayers. 100-12304-Sub A

The "People's Voice" of October 19, 1946, describes Robeson as Co-Chairman of the National Committee to Win the Peace, member of the Executive Committee of the Independent Citizens Committee of Arts, Sciences and Professions, Chairman of the Council on African Affairs, Chairman of the American Crusade to End Lynching. The same article reported that he was a witness before the Tenney Joint Legislative (California) Commission on Un-American Activities in Los Angeles, California, on October 7, 1946. When asked if he thought Russia in 1917 was the ideal country in which to test Marxism, he said, "No, I think the best country to test the principles of Marxism might be the America of today. Russia in 1917 was too poor." He said he was not a Communist but that ".....as a Negro" he was "inevitably attracted to the Anti-Fascist Movement....." -- 100-12304-Sub A

In the New York "Times" of October 8, 1946, this same information was reported and he is quoted as having said that "regardless of Russia's totalitarian features, it was a country which had established equality of peoples of black, white and yellow and where a derogatory use of the word 'Jew' brought a jail sentence." 100-12304-Sub A

The "Daily Worker" of October 11, 1946, in reporting this same information quoted Robeson as having told Senator Tenney that the existence of his Committee was evidence of the fact that Fascism still lives. He was asked if he was a Communist. He replied that he characterized himself as an

anti-Fascist. He said that he was not a Communist, but that he would choose it over the Republicans, explaining that "in my association with Communists throughout the World, I have found them to be the first people to die, the first to sacrifice, and the first to understand Fascism."

The "Daily Worker" of December 27, 1946, on page 5, said that he would be the principal speaker at a two-day conference to be held in Washington, D. C., on January 23, 1947, under the auspices of the American Crusade to End Lynching.

The "People's Voice" of February 1, 1947, on page two, carried an article in which it was stated that Robeson had told reporters in St. Louis, Missouri, that he was leaving the theater and the concert stage for the next two years to "talk up and down the Nation against race hatred and prejudice." The article pointed out that Robeson marched at the head of a picket line with about 30 members of the St. Louis Civil Rights Congress in front of the American Theater in St. Louis, Missouri, to protest its racial segregation practice.

The Los Angeles "Times" of March 17, 1947, pointed out that Robeson's concert at the Philharmonic Auditorium on the Saturday night before, followed the pattern of those set by him in recent years in that it was part recital and part political action. The article pointed out that from the remarks made by Robeson it was apparent that he had no intention of changing his routine. It added, "Those who pay to hear his eloquent singing will also have to endure his politicking."

Hedda Hopper in her column "Looking at Hollywood" in the Los Angeles "Times" of March 20, 1947, said, "When Paul Robeson sang the Communist 'People's Battle Song' here and dedicated it to Gerhardt Eisler, some members of his audience walked out. Why one remained is beyond me. To sit idly listening to a man abusing the precious heritage of freedom given us by our Constitution in flaunting the preachings of our most dangerous enemy is inviting disaster. When such people as Robeson are attacked they scream 'persecution' and 'Fascism'-- the obvious dodge that our Red brethren attempt when cornered by people whom they've goaded out of lethargy. Yet they believe it perfectly right that they be allowed to attack the very foundations of our country -- simply because one of our principles provides freedom of speech."

The "Washington Post" for May 9, 1947, in an article entitled "New Veterans' Legislation Demanded as First Annual Communist Veterans Encampment Commemorates VE-Day" listed Paul Robeson as one of the feature speakers at a program held at Turner's Arena, Washington, D. C., on May 8, 1947. Among the other speakers who appeared before this group were William Z. Foster, Chairman of the Communist Party, and Eugene Dennis, General Secretary of the Communist Party.

In the "Newsweek" magazine for May 12, 1947, on page 29, under an article entitled "Passes From Pravda," the following information appears concerning Robeson:

"Paul Robeson: Affiliated with American Committee for Democracy and Intellectual Freedom, China Air Council, American League for Peace and Democracy, American Peace Mobilization, Artists' Front to Win the War, Citizens' Committee for Harry Bridges, Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, Medical Bureau and North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy, National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, National Negro Congress, New Masses, New Theatre League, New Dance League, New Theatre, Southern Conference for Human Welfare, Soviet Russia Today, Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, American Youth for Democracy, International Labor Defense, the Abraham Lincoln School, and the Washington Committee for Aid to China."



Pravda is gratified: Russia has so many warm friends in the United States

most members regarded it as primarily a gesture reflecting the prevailing economy-mindedness of the 80th Congress. They believe that if the Senate restores the slash, the House probably will agree to a compromise—around \$300,000,000.

LEFT: Sprinter

Henry Wallace announced last week that he was ready to make the supreme sacrifice. "I have no ambition for public office," he declared. However, he had a second thought on the matter: If the only way to advance the cause of world peace was for Henry Wallace to run for President in '48, "I would run as hard as I could."

Paeon From Pravda

Pravda last week counted Soviet Russia's many blessings one by one, and the results were gratifying. There was so much the Russians could be thankful for, the Moscow daily exulted, particularly their American friends. Pravda named them:

☛ Henry A. Wallace, Democratic Sen. Claude Pepper of Florida, and Elliott Roosevelt, whose pro-Soviet stand indicated "the mood of the broad masses of Americans."

☛ The National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, "headed by the Protestant clergyman Melish."

☛ "Politicians like Melish [who] express the mood of many simple Americans."

☛ Johannes Steel, "the famous radio commentator."

☛ Prof. Ralph Barton Perry, Robert W. Kenny, Albert Einstein, former United States Ambassador to Moscow Joseph

E. Davies, Paul Robeson, "and many others," including Mollie Lieber.

Of all Russia's blessings, only Mollie Lieber had earned Pravda's accolade the hard way. Mrs. Lieber made no bones about it: She was an old-time Communist-party member and organizer. Born in Poland 30 years ago, she came to America when she was 12. "I was disillusioned shortly after arriving here," she declared last week. At 17, she was taking part in radical activities. She helped to organize the Young Communist League, in Illinois and nationally. She also helped to organize its successor, American Youth for Democracy, and is now co-chairman of the Illinois division.

Wallace, Pepper, and Elliott Roosevelt earned Pravda's accolade by their attacks on American foreign policy, and especially on the Truman Doctrine. The others earned it, however, primarily by lending their names to scores of Communist-front organizations, including the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, which was first organized in 1920 as the Friends of the Soviet Union. During the war, the organization temporarily achieved considerable esteem and succeeded in enticing many anti-Communists to join. Since then, its propaganda against United States foreign policy has driven most of them out.

The record:

The Rev. William Howard Melish, associate rector of the Holy Trinity Protestant Episcopal Church in Brooklyn, is chairman of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship. Has been affiliated with the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, the Citizens Com-

mittee for Harry Bridges, and the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties. Has written for Communist publications, including New Masses and Soviet Russia Today.

Johannes Steel: Dropped as radio commentator by station WHN, he now publishes the pro-Soviet newsletter, Johannes Steel Report on World Affairs, and is foreign editor of the sympathetic Reader's Scope. As candidate for Congress of Communist-dominated American Labor party, he was endorsed by The Daily Worker and supported by 1,000 Communist doorbell-pushers.

Prof. Ralph Barton Perry, a sponsor of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship. Sponsored call to Congress of American-Soviet Friendship, dinner honoring Red Army, and Southern Conference for Human Welfare. Contributor to Soviet Russia Today. Worked closely with American Student Union and American Committee for Democracy and Intellectual Freedom.

Robert W. Kenny, former State Attorney General of California: Affiliated with Coordinating Committee to Lift the Embargo, American League for Peace and Democracy, Council for Pan American Democracy, Friends of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, National Lawyers Guild, League of American Writers, and Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee. Counsel for William Schneiderman, California state secretary of the Communist party.

Albert Einstein: Affiliated with American Friends of the Chinese People, Committee for Peace Through World Cooperation, Congress of American-Soviet Friendship, Friends of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, International Labor Defense, Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, League of American Writers, Medical Bur

* Among those who quit: Sens. Leverett Saltonstall and Arthur Capper; President Earl T. Compton of M. I. T.; Judge Le Hand, and Harold L. Ickes.

Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy, National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, Soviet Russia Today, the Spanish Refugee Relief Campaign, and the American Committee for the Protection of Foreign Born.

Joseph E. Davies: Affiliated with National Council of American-Soviet Friendship and Congress of American-Soviet Friendship. Sent greetings to New Masses. Signed statement of National Federation for Constitutional Liberties hailing War Department order permitting Communists to become Army officers. Author of "Mission to Moscow," which glorified Soviet regime and justified totalitarianism.

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To Pravda, the activities of Russia's friends proved that "foreign democratic intellectuals have become more and more convinced that only by following the principles which the USSR is defending in the field of international relations can the leaders of science and culture be set free from the fate of the servants of imperialism."

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May Party Line

The party line stretched long and thin down Eighth Avenue in New York's swarming garment district. Sometimes there were embarrassing gaps in it. Sometimes there seemed to be fewer paraders than police—2,800 uniformed cops and a small army of detectives had been assigned to the route. At Union Square, the reviewing stand looked like a Sunday picnic. A mother rocked her baby carriage in the spring sunshine. Two small boys scrambled over the bleachers, whacking at each other with rolled-up banners. Girls posed for snapshots. It was May Day, 1947.

Thursday morning, before police, correspondents

from Tass, the official Soviet news agency, and thousands of office and factory workers en route to the 5 p.m. homeward subway crush, New York Communists and pro-Communist organizations marched in their annual show of strength. What The Daily Worker heralded as "united labor" turned out to be the old standbys—the National Maritime Union, the United Electrical Workers, and the International Fur and Leather Workers Union—all CIO and Communist-infiltrated. Only a few left-wing AFL contingents marched and they paid the price—by nightfall, the AFL ordered the three leaders who had sponsored participation in the parade suspended.

By far the greatest triumph of the day belonged to the Communist party itself. It ordered into the parade about 700 veterans, in uniform and wearing military decorations. They marched in perfect ranks chanting: "One-two-three-four. We don't want another war."

On placards, banners, and floats, the marchers announced where they stood:

¶ They were against military use of the atomic bomb, imperialism, the Taft-Hartley "slave" labor bill, Representatives Rankin and J. Parnell Thomas, Senators Taft and Bilbo, war talk, Red baiting, J. Edgar Hoover, President Truman's foreign policy, loans to Greece and

Turkey, Wall Street, and the House Un-American Activities Committee.

¶ They were for peace, independence of Puerto Rico, a Federal theater, the 35-hour week, housing, Soviet-American friendship, Gerhard Eisler, Henry A. Wallace, the Negro ballplayer Jackie Robinson, and the return of "one-cent bubble gum."

Communist spokesmen vied with each other in trying to cover up an all too apparent fact—May Day, 1947, was a flop compared with other years. Blatantly Ben Gold, Communist president of the Fur and Leather Workers Union, pronounced the parade the "best ever." William Z. Foster, national chairman of the Communist party, added: "This great demonstration is but a foretaste of the great demonstrations to come." The Daily Worker announced that 80,000 had marched. The police count: 27,500.

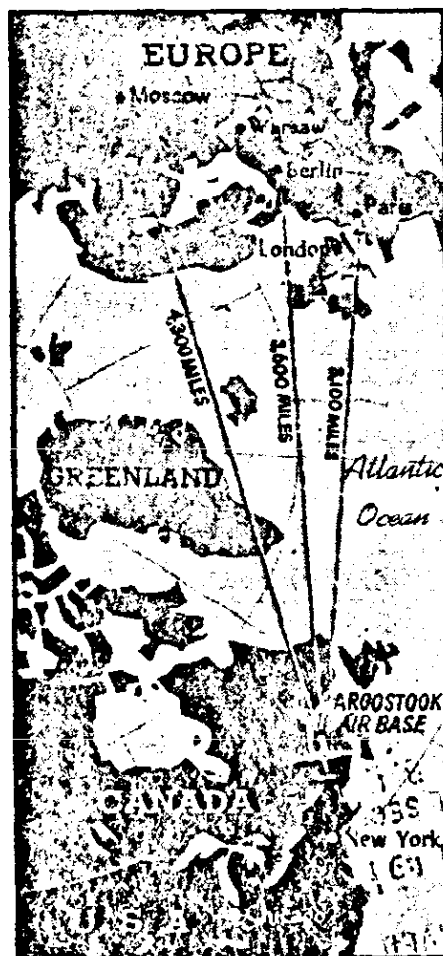
ARMY: Potato Air Base

Agriculturally, Aroostook County in Northern Maine could brag about its smooth-skinned potatoes that make it the nation's No. 1 spud producer. Commercially, it could boast of the astounding 355 bushels per acre which it converts into starch, alcohol, dehydrated potatoes, seed potatoes or fertilizer, or just lets rot under the government's price-support program. Botanically, the county—bigger than Connecticut and Rhode Island combined—had also been famous for its forests of magnificent white pines.

Militarily, it was another matter. Because Aroostook County is the closest spot in the United States to Europe, the Army Air Forces last week revealed it would build a \$14,000,000 base there for its longest-range bombers—the six-engined Consolidated B-36, the Boeing B-50, the Northrop B-35 Flying Wing, and its jet-powered version, the B-49. Their 5,000-mile radius would put Europe within six- to seven-hour range of the new Aroostook base.

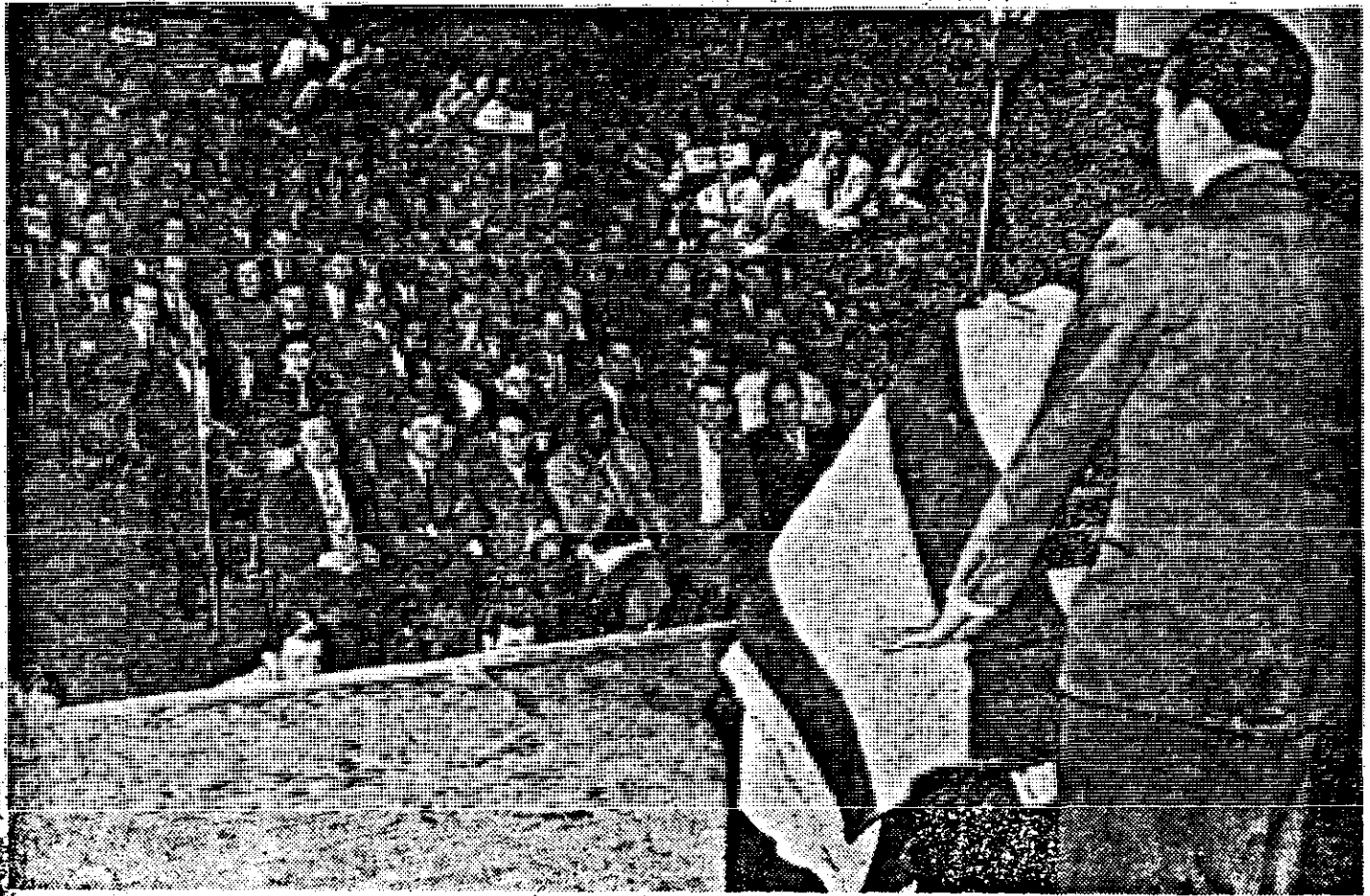
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Newsweek Map by James Outter
Aroostook: Six bomber bases to Europe

New Veterans' Legislation Demanded as First Annual Communist Veterans Encampment Commemorates VE-Day



In Turner's Arena yesterday, the first of a two-day Communist Veterans' Encampment is opened

Post Staff Photo

Between 400 and 500 Communists from various States, most of them veterans, commemorated V-E Day by gathering here yesterday for a two-day first annual Communist Veterans Encampment. Though a detail of Metropolitan police was on hand at Turner's Arena, where the Communist veterans met, they were not called upon even at a mass evening meet-

ing which climaxed the first day's "Encampment."

Last night's program, which followed adoption of a resolution calling for new veterans' legislation, featured as speakers William Z. Foster, chairman of the Communist Party, Eugene Dennis, general secretary, and Paul Robeson.

Keynote speaker at the opening session of the "Encampment" was Robert Thompson, chairman of the

New York State Communist Party, who declared the political group was "the only party to afford veterans an opportunity to gather from all parts of the country to express their views."

The Republican and Democratic parties, he added, "fear their record of broken promises, a record that is shameful and unmatched in perfidy in our country's annals."

Plans of the group to visit Congressmen from their States ran to at least one snag yesterday when Senator Arthur Vandenberg (R., Mich.) and Representatives Harbo, (R., Mich.) and Shafer (R., Mich.) announced they would refuse to grant the group a meeting with the Michigan

field units to assist veterans in filing claims.

4. Equal rights for Negro veterans in the VA hospitals and under GI Bill of Rights.

5. Increased VA services, veterans' and widows' pensions, and hospital facilities; National Service Life Insurance to be made permanent term insurance.

6. Changes in the GI Bill of Rights, including increases in subsistence payments and unemployment payments.

7. Federal and State soldiers' bonuses.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/2/19 SP-5 RJS/ML

100-12304-71

ENCLOSURE

10-point veterans' program by the "Encampment"

1. An employment program including Federal public works, expanded job training, higher minimum wages, a shorter work week, improved health and safety conditions, compulsory employment of disabled veterans and Government operation of unused war plants.

2. A Federal program to provide 10 million homes in the next five years, acceleration of stringent controls over construction and materials and passage of Taft-Hartley and other housing bills.

3. Cash payment of terminal leave to all veterans who have failed to file for

clipping is from Washington Post 1947

Blip

262

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Post Office Box 812
Chicago 90, Illinois

PLEASE REFER TO
100-17965

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

April 30, 1947

Director, FBI

Re: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA - BRIEF
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Dear Sir:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

a highly confidential but reliable informant, advised that ALFRED WAGENKNECHT, First Vice-Chairman, District 8; WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, Second Vice-Chairman, District 8; GIL GREEN, Chairman, District 8; and JIM KELLER, Organizer, were discussing the reaction of people in Peoria after the scheduled singing engagement of PAUL ROBESON was banned and he was refused the use of the Peoria Public Hall, which is operated by the city of Peoria, Illinois. b1

WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, who it is known visited Peoria, advised those assembled that he saw more guns down there "among our people" than he ever has before but that they expected violence. He said he has walked the streets of Berlin and that they are no worse than Peoria.

It is not known if PATTERSON referred to Communist Party members when he used the words "among our people" or whether he referred to negroes in Peoria inasmuch as PATTERSON is a negro.

WAGENKNECHT asked PATTERSON if some of the boys had guns and PATTERSON said that everybody had a gun. ~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

Any further information brought to the attention of the informant will be immediately submitted to the Bureau and the Springfield and New York Offices. For the Bureau's information, the Ministerial Association at Peoria has invited PAUL ROBESON to appear again in Peoria at a future date and he will be allowed the use of a church to make a speech allegedly against "Peoria Fascism".

Very truly yours,

G. R. McSwain
Special Agent in Charge

Springfield
New York

100-3337

100-5912

100-3952

100-14652

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REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2, 2.1

DATE OF REVIEW 11/21/90

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INDEXED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

19 MAY 15 1947

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 RJS/CUM

RECORDED

Date: May 3, 1947

100-12304-72

BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

To: Director of Intelligence
War Department General Staff
The Pentagon
Washington 25, D. C.

Attention: Colonel L. R. Forney
Chief, Security Group

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF Under Post
DATE 6-30-47

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: RACIAL UNREST CREATED BY PAUL ROBESON'S
SCHEDULED APPEARANCE AT PEORIA, ILLINOIS

It is believed that you will be interested in the following information.

The Daily Worker of April 19, 1947, reflects that a concert scheduled by Paul Robeson at Peoria, Illinois, was called off by the City Council. Paul Robeson, according to the article, in a telephone statement to the Council on African Affairs, New York City, assailed the Peoria City Council which had unanimously adopted a resolution condemning an appearance there of "any speaker or artist who is an avowed or active propagandist for un-American ideology." According to the article, Mayor Carl O. Friebe had reversed an earlier approval for the use of the City Hall which was to be used for the reception of Paul Robeson by a citizen's committee. The Mayor's reversal, according to the article, was based on his fear of "riots or disturbances." In a statement the Mayor had inferred that "Robeson is coming here for a fight" because the singer had told the press of threats he had received. According to this article Paul Robeson made the statement that he did "not intend to be bullied" and expressed conviction that "Peoria citizens, feeling as I do, will demonstrate their own feelings against the un-American assault in their own way."

Through a reliable and confidential source it was ascertained that on [redacted] a special conference was held at the Communist Party Headquarters in Chicago which was participated in by leading Communists of the Chicago area, including Gilbert Green, Chairman of District No. 8 of the Communist Party, and William L. Patterson, negro, Second Vice Chairman of District No. 8. According to this informant, William L. Patterson, who, it is known, visited Peoria, Illinois, advised the other Communist officials present that he saw more guns down there "among our people" than he ever had before and that they expected violence. Alfred Wagenknecht, First Vice Chairman of District No. 8, asked Patterson if some of the boys had guns and Patterson said that everybody had a gun.

It is not known if Patterson referred to Communist Party members when he used the words "among our people," or whether he referred to negroes in Peoria, inasmuch as Patterson is a negro.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

MAY 2 1947 P.M.

HOB:mod INVESTIGATION

60 MAY 27 1947

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MAY 14 1977

Director of Intelligence
War Department General Staff

The Ministerial Association at Peoria has invited Paul Robeson to appear again in Peoria at some future date and he will be allowed the use of a church to make a speech allegedly against "Peoria Fascism."

If any additional information concerning the above is obtained, it will be furnished to you immediately.

cc: Chief of Naval Intelligence
Navy Department
Constitution Avenue
Washington 25, D. C.

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAY 23 1947

TELETYPE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF CLASS, FV

DATE 8/3/81

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

WASH FROM NEW YORK 14 23 6-15 PM

DIRECTOR ROUTINE

CONF. INFO
PAUL ROBESON, ISC. [REDACTED] ADVISED THAT MAX YERGAN AND PAUL ROBESON INTEND TO DEPART FROM US ON MAY TWENTY FOUR FORTY SEVEN APPARENTLY FOR PANAMA CANAL ZONE. METHOD OF TRAVEL OR ITINERARY UNKNOWN. IT WAS INDICATED A RECEPTION WAS HELD FOR THEM AT HOME OF DR. CECIL MARQUEZ, FOUR ONE SEVEN WEST ONE FOUR THREE STREET, NYC, NIGHT OF MAY TWENTY SECOND, SPONSORED BY UNITED SONS OF CANAL ZONE. MARQUEZ IS NEGRO WEST INDIAN PHYSICIAN WHO HAS ACTED AS HOST TO VARIOUS POLITICIANS AND LABOR LEADERS FROM WEST INDIES ONE HAVING BEEN NORMAN W. MANLEY-LEADER OF PEOPLES NATIONALIST PARTY, JAMAICA, B. W. I. PURPOSE OF TRIP UNKNOWN BUT PROBABLY IN LINE WITH ROBESONS PRESENT POLICY OF PUBLIC APPEARANCES FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES AND RELATED TO WEST INDIAN ACTIVITIES IN CANAL ZONE. SUBMITTED FOR INFO. 1

FIELDT

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RSG/CLW
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 11/21/90

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-12304-73
32 MAY 24 1947

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OTHERWISE

58 JUN 10 1947

266

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. J. C. STRICKLAND

FROM : Mr. L. Whitson

SUBJECT: PAUL ROBESON
PAUL ROBESON - PHOTOGRAPH

DATE: 5/22/47

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Lamford _____
Mr. Jones _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Bealm _____
Miss Gandy _____

Attached is a photostatic copy of pages 29 and 30 of "Newsweek" for May 12, 1947, containing the photograph of the subject and comments regarding favorable remarks made of him in "Pravda."

Attachment

LW:edm

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&
INDEXED

302

100-12304-74
MAY 26 1947

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DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 R386/ML

JUN 12 1947

357

267



Pravda is gratified: Russia has so many warm friends in the United States

most members regarded it as primarily a gesture reflecting the prevailing economy-mindedness of the 80th Congress. They believe that if the Senate restores the slash, the House probably will agree to a compromise—around \$300,000,000.

LEFT: Sprinter

Henry Wallace announced last week that he was ready to make the supreme sacrifice. "I have no ambition for public office," he declared. However, he had a second thought on the matter: If the only way to advance the cause of world peace was for Henry Wallace to run for President in '48, "I would run as hard as I could."

Paeon From Pravda

Pravda last week counted Soviet Russia's many blessings one by one, and the results were gratifying. There was so much the Russians could be thankful for, the Moscow daily exulted, particularly their American friends. Pravda named them:

☐ Henry A. Wallace, Democratic Sen. Claude Pepper of Florida, and Elliott Roosevelt, whose pro-Soviet stand indicated "the mood of the broad masses of Americans."

☐ The National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, "headed by the Protestant clergyman Melish."

☐ "Politicians like Melish [who] express the mood of many simple Americans."

☐ Johannes Steel, "the famous radio commentator."

☐ Prof. Ralph Barton Perry, Robert W. Kenny, Albert Einstein, former United States Ambassador to Moscow Joseph

E. Davies, Paul Robeson, "and many others," including Mollie Lieber.

Of all Russia's blessings, only Mollie Lieber had earned Pravda's accolade the hard way. Mrs. Lieber made no bones about it: She was an old-time Communist-party member and organizer. Born in Poland 30 years ago, she came to America when she was 12. "I was disillusioned shortly after arriving here," she declared last week. At 17, she was taking part in radical activities. She helped to organize the Young Communist League, in Illinois and nationally. She also helped to organize its successor, American Youth for Democracy, and is now co-chairman of the Illinois division.

Wallace, Pepper, and Elliott Roosevelt earned Pravda's accolade by their attacks on American foreign policy, and especially on the Truman Doctrine. The others earned it, however, primarily by lending their names to scores of Communist-front organizations, including the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, which was first organized in 1920 as the Friends of the Soviet Union. During the war, the organization temporarily achieved considerable esteem and succeeded in enticing many anti-Communists to join. Since then, its propaganda against United States foreign policy has driven most of them out.*

The record:

The Rev. William Howard Melish, associate rector of the Holy Trinity Protestant Episcopal Church in Brooklyn, is chairman of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship. Has been affiliated with the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, the Citizens Com-

mittee for Harry Bridges, and the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties. Has written for Communist publications, including New Masses and Soviet Russia Today.

Johannes Steel: Dropped as radio commentator by station WHN, he now publishes the pro-Soviet newsletter, Johannes Steel Report on World Affairs, and is foreign editor of the sympathetic Reader's Scope. As candidate for Congress of Communist-dominated American Labor party, he was endorsed by The Daily Worker and supported by 1,000 Communist doorbell-pushers.

Prof. Ralph Barton Perry, a sponsor of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship. Sponsored call to Congress of American-Soviet Friendship, dinner honoring Red Army, and Southern Conference for Human Welfare. Contributor to Soviet Russia Today. Worked closely with American Student Union and American Committee for Democracy and Intellectual Freedom.

Robert W. Kenny, former State Attorney General of California: Affiliated with Coordinating Committee to Lift the Embargo, American League for Peace and Democracy, Council for Pan American Democracy, Friends of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, National Lawyers Guild, League of American Writers, and Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee. Counsel for William Schneiderman, California state secretary of the Communist party.

Albert Einstein: Affiliated with American Friends of the Chinese People, Committee for Peace Through World Cooperation, Congress of American-Soviet Friendship, Friends of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, International Labor Defense, Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, League of American Writers, Medical Bureau and North American

* Among those who quit: Sen. Leverett Saltonstall and Arthur Capper, President Karl T. Compton of M. I. T., Judge Learned Hand, and Harold L. Ickes.

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100-12304-77

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Aroostook: Six bomber hours to Europe

100-12304-74

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAY 26 1947

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

WASH FROM NEW YORK 16 26 606 PM

DIRECTOR ROUTINE

PAUL ROBESON, ISC. REMYTEL FIVE TWENTY THREE FORTYSEVEN ADVISING PROB-
ABLE DEPARTURE SUBJECT AND MAX YERGAN FOR PANAMA ON FIVE TWENTY
FOUR FORTY SEVEN. RELIABLE SOURCE HAS ADVISED MAX YERGAN DEPARTED
FOR PANAMA FIVE TWENTY FOUR FORTY SEVEN AS INDICATED, TO BE GONE ONE
MONTH. HE REQUESTED AND RECD LETTER OF IDENTIFICATION FROM CORN
EXCHANGE BANK, NYC ADDRESSED TO CONSUL GENERAL OF GUATEMALA. SOURCE
UNABLE TO ADVISE CONTRY IN WHICH CONSUL GENERAL LOCATED. BELIEVED
TO BE CONSUL GENERAL OF GUATEMALA LOCATED IN PANAMA. SUBMITTED FOR INF
SCHEIDT

END

HOLD PLS

EX-50
100-12304-75
FBI
29 MAY 27 1947

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 RSG/MLM

33 JUN 4 1947

cc: Mr Ladd

270

SAC, New Haven

May 27, 1947

Director, FBI

ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON, was.

SECURITY MATTER - C

Your File: 100-3032

In accordance with your recommendation, the Security Index Card relative to the captioned individual has been cancelled and you are authorized to place your copy thereof in the investigative case file.

100-12304 ✓

JEM:jd
7

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DATE 11/2/82 BY SP5 RSG/KM

*JL
Jem*

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 10
★ MAY 27 1947 P.M.
JUN 3 1947 / 03
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

THESE DAYS

I WENT into Paul Robeson's difficulties in Peoria with considerable care and found that no race or color prejudices were involved. The opposition to Robeson arose from an antagonism to communism. The basis for opposition was of Robeson's own making. In the "New Africa," for December 1945, Robeson said:

"In this new enlivening and fast-changing world, the Soviet Union I believe to be in the very forefront of the battle to obtain real (not imaginary) freedom for the many—not the few."

Ben Davis Jr., Negro Communist leader, quotes Robeson in "Soviet Russia Today," August 1936, as saying:

"The Soviet Union is the only country I've ever been in where I've felt completely at ease. I've lived in England and America and I've almost circled the globe—but for myself, wife, and son, the Soviet Union is our future home."

ROBESON has a way of making speeches during his concerts, speeches which support the Communist position. Also, as encores, he often sings Communist songs. It was because of this general situation that on April 15, 1947, the Peoria Star published in a column written by Gomer Bath an item, "Artist or Propagandist"—which started the rumpus. Bath wrote:

"When he sang recently in Los Angeles, he angered and insulted his audience by including in the program the Communist 'Peoples' Battle Song.' He insulted all America further by publicly dedicating the song to Gerhard Eisler, America's No. 1 Red, as reported by syndicated columnist Jimmy Fidler."

The next day Peoria was the scene of great excitement. Allen Cannon, sponsor of the concert, announced that he would indefinitely postpone the concert because the sales were bad, some of those who had bought tickets turning them back.

Meanwhile, Milo W. Nelson, council member representing the 1st ward, introduced a resolution denouncing Robeson as "an avowed and active propagandist for un-American ideologies." The resolution was passed by a rising vote.

Robeson's concert was to have been held at the Shrine mosque. When his local representative canceled the concert, the mayor of Peoria offered a room in the city hall for a reception.

By GEORGE E. SOKOLSKY

Because of protests by the American Legion and others, this offer was withdrawn by Mayor Carl O. Triebel.

Robeson came to Peoria by motor car from Decatur, Ill. Dr. Max Yergan, national president of the National Negro congress, which is regarded as a fellow-traveler organization, flew to Peoria to be with Robeson. He found that seven of the eight Negro ministers on the reception committee had resigned. He wrote:

"We then tried to get the local CIO hall, but found that even this sanctuary of labor was closed to us."

THE first story that appeared nationally on this subject was not sent out by any reporter from Peoria, but was telephoned by Paul Robeson to the Council on African Affairs in New York. This was published in New York City newspapers and was picked up by a press service for national distribution. Subsequently, generally accurate news reports came from Peoria, but the issue had been beclouded by the earlier press release of the Council on African Affairs. The impression was created that mob rule governed Peoria.

Max Yergan, writing in the Brooklyn Voice, sought to recreate that tone: "... You could sense the tenseness. Hate filled the countenances of airport loungers as they glared at me..." His headline reads: "Murder Was in Their Hearts." Subsequently, Peoria ministers offered Robeson a hall for a concert and reception. This has not been accepted.

MY CONCLUSION is that Paul Robeson could have sung, even if to only a handful. He could have appeared at the Shrine mosque, even if under police protection. His manager canceled the engagement. Furthermore, if Robeson chooses to be both singer and propagandist, that is his risk. Those who favor causes must risk the consequences of opposition. Better men than Paul Robeson have been thrown to the lions. If the cause is worthy, the martyrdom is worthy. Robeson, however, has no right even to imply or to permit the untruth to be circulated that when he is opposed as one favoring Soviet Russia or the Communists, he is opposed as an artist or a Negro. That was not true in Peoria.

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Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Leonard
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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a good summary
on Robeson so don't
let it get lost

MAY 22 1947

Times Herald
Page 15

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FBI

41 MAY 20 1947

5 JUN 6 1947

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C. A. Hazelwood
Postmaster
508 THIRD AVENUE

Peoria, Illinois

Sept. 12, 1947

56223

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have been charged with being a fellow traveler of Communism, in the city of Peoria, and the State of Illinois.

This accusation is the outgrowth of my believing in the principles of Democracy, which embraces the "Four Freedoms and the Civil Rights of man."

Enclosed you will find the facts, which have led to these charges being placed against me. I have been accused of being a Communist because I believed Paul Robeson had a right to sing to the people of this city and I believed he had a right to defend himself against the derogatory statements that have been made against him. These accusations have been made by the American Legion in this city. I am Commander of the all Negro Post here and I ask that your Bureau investigate us and also myself, and give us a definite statement as to your findings, so that we may wipe this stupid incident from our records.

I am asking that you present us with a definite statement as to whether or not Paul Robeson is or is not a Communist. We have all of the information concerning alleged accusations against him, but we want to know if he is listed in your files as a Communist.

I feel that any good American who has fought for the freedom of mankind does not want to be accused of such acts, when he knows only one country and will gladly sacrifice his life that all men might be free.

I am asking for this investigation and your statements at the earliest possible date, so that we might clarify this case. I await your reply and will gladly give you any other information necessary.

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ENCLOSURE BEHIND FILE
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RECORDED
Respectfully,
114

Clifford A. Hazelwood
Clifford A. Hazelwood
Veteran World War I

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56224

City Hall Denied Robeson

Continued from Page 1

dividuals and not as members of various organizations with which they are affiliated.

Mr. Martin is a district official of the United Farm Equipment Workers (CIO), but he said the union is no way involved in the current controversy.

Hazelwood In Statement

Another committee member, Clifford Hazelwood, also said he acted as an individual and not in his capacity of commander of Roy B. Tisdell Post, American Legion. In a typewritten statement, Mr. Hazelwood said:

"As vice president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People it has been stated that Mr. Robeson's appearance here is to clarify his position as to his alleged Communist activities, and he is appearing on the basis of his constitutional right.

"Mr. Hazelwood states that if Mr. Robeson is guilty of subversive propaganda or any movement of any nature to overthrow the government, he (Hazelwood) as a defender of the Constitution, is against Robeson, or any other American citizen who might be

guilty of such movements, and at the first monthly meeting of Roy B. Tisdell Post No. 537 will insist on this post drafting necessary resolutions to the courts that these matters be investigated thoroughly and that Mr. Robeson be dealt with as any other individual who would overthrow the government."

Criticizes Council

Announcement that Robeson would come to Peoria despite the storms of protest here came from the singer himself in a press interview last night in Champaign where he gave a concert on the University of Illinois campus.

Robeson was quoted as saying that he had received some threats of violence from Peoria, and he criticized what he termed the "Fascist technique" of the Peoria city council.

Basis for this was the council resolution passed last Tuesday voicing disapproval of the appearance here of any speaker or artist who is an avowed and active propagandist for un-American ideologies "regardless of artistic attainment, race, or any other consideration."

"I am not easily frightened."

Robeson was quoted as saying. "I will go to Peoria with adequate protection."

Robeson also was reported as saying that he will go to Davenport, Ia., where one of his scheduled concerts also was recently called off.

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ENCLOSURE

100-12304-84

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Mr. Clifford Kessel
908 Third Avenue
Peoria, Illinois
September 6, 1947

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am a World War I veteran, having served from April 29, 1917 to July 7, 1919, in the United States Army. I have an Honorable Discharge, with my character rated as excellent, I might add that I also have a 50% disability-service connected.

During the last six months, from April through September, I have been accused of being a Communist and a Communistic sympathizer. These charges are not true and I wish to innumerate the facts leading to these accusations:

1. In March of this year, a Mr. Cannon, who is a music instructor at Bradley University, entered my office to place an ad in my newspaper. The ad was concerning the appearance of Paul Robeson in a concert at the Shrine Mosque on April 18th.
2. On April 15th, Mr. Gomer Bath, a local columnist, wrote an article branding Mr. Robeson as a Communist, and from there on the battle began to take shape.

100-12304-84

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3. The concert was cancelled on April 16th, because the City Council had adopted a resolution expressing their disapproval of Robeson's concert April 18th. Also at that time a Russian Gospel Singer was to appear here on April 17th at a Youth For Christ Rally, but no comment was made about his appearance.

4. On April 17th, the Chambers of the City Council were granted for Mr. Robeson's appearance to a Citizen's Committee. I had received an invitation to sit in on this committee and acting as Vice-President of the National Association For The Advancement Of Colored People, and believing that a definite violation of Civil Rights was involved, I sat in on the meeting, which was made up of citizens who really wanted to hear Mr. Robeson sing.

5. The Mayor and several of the Aldermen were willing to allow the Chambers to be used for Mr. Robeson's appearance, but on the night of April 17th the Peoria Post of the American Legion passed a resolution condemning Robeson's appearance. I, Commander of Roy B. Tisdell Post #537, the Negro American Legion Post in the city, stated to the press that my post was not at all involved in the matter and that I was acting in the capacity of Vice-President of the N. A. A.C. P. (I have the clippings to substantiate my statement)

6. Then on April 18th the Mayor rescinded his approval of use of the Council Chambers. Mr. Robeson did come to Peoria, but did not give the scheduled concert. All during this time Roy B. Tisdell Post #537 had remained silent on the issue.

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7. Saturday, April 26th, a resolution accusing me of Communistic activities and ideologies was drawn by Mr. Carl Phillips, past Commander of Peoria Post #2 and presented it to five members of the Executive Board of Roy B. Tisdell Post #537.

8. Sunday, April 27th, the proposed resolution was adopted by the five me whose names appear in the attached clipping, (Exhibit 4) without having been voted upon by the membership.

9. At the next meeting of the Post which took place on the first Thursday in May—the resolution was denounced by the membership and a new one denouncing Communism and any other "isms", other than Americanism. Copies were presented to the press, but were not printed.

10. A vote by the membership was taken on Mr. Phillips' resolution and the count was 40 against it and the same five men of the Executive Board were the only one's who voted for it.

11. During this upheaval the Ministerial Alliance, a group comprising all of the Ministers in the City of Peoria, presented a resolution to the Mayor and the City Council condoning their action toward Mr. Robeson, and asked that he be invited to Peoria for a concert sometime in the near future.

12. On August 7th, I was re-elected Commander of Tisdell Post for the fourth time and third consecutive time. The election was padded, however, with the opposition bringing in nine members of the post for re-instatement, who were permitted to vote.

A True and Exact copy of the Resolution drawn by the membership
of Roy B. Tisdell Post #537.

May 1, 1947

RESOLUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS BE UPHOLD IN THE CITY OF PEORIA

(ANY FURTHER RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF ROY
B. TISDELL POST NO. 537, BE DECLARED NULL AND VOID BY THE MEMBERSHIP
OF SAID POST.)

WHEREAS, the preamble of the American Legion to the Constitution asks
us: To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States
of America; To maintain law and order; To foster and perpet-
uate a one-hundred per cent Americanism; To preserve the mem-
ories and incidents of our associations in the great wars;
To inculcate a sense of individual obligations to the commu-
nity; state and nation; To combat the autocracy of both the
classes and the masses; To make right the master of right;
To promote peace and good will on earth; To safeguard and
transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and
democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our Comradeship by our
devotion to mutual helpfulness. We find the Commander, Cliff-
ord A. Hazelwood, acted for another organization, not con-
nected with us in any way, and

WHEREAS, we, the membership of Tisdell Post No. 537, stand against any
form of un-American activities, and

WHEREAS, we believe in maintaining the four freedoms, Freedom from fear;
Freedom of press; religion and want to all citizens, and

WHEREAS, we believe in the Bill of Rights which allows to every citizen
freedom of speech and assemblage, and

WHEREAS, we believe in the Constitution of the United States and its
amendments and to the spirit and letter in which they were
written, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Roy B. Tisdell Post No. 537, Depart-
ment of Illinois, will be represented collect-
ively in speech and action; not by any one per-
son or any group of persons without authority
of said Post.

Israel Allen, Chairman Resolution
Committee
C.A. Hazelwood, Commander
Willis Jordan, Adjutant

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This is a true and exact copy of the Resolution drawn by members of Roy.
B. Tisdell Post No. 537....made by me, DOROTHY A. MITCHELL, a Notary Public
in and for the County of PEORIA; State of ILLINOIS. My commission expires
May 13, 1950

Dorothy A. Mitchell (SEAL)
Notary Public, Ill.

13. On August 8th, the State Commander temporarily revoked the Charter of Tiedall Post on the findings and recommendation of a Committee appointed by him, using Article XI, Section 26 of the Legion Constitution as a basis for his action.

14. The Legion Home was padlocked and all of our material assets were confiscated and once again I was being prosecuted and called a Communist.

I went to the State Legion meeting to present my case before the Executive Committee, but I was not allowed to speak.

I am asking for this investigation not only for myself, but this entire Post has been branded as Communistic, which is a lie, Neither I nor the boys are inclined to be Communistic in any way, but are firm believers of a Democratic form of government.

I am asking to be investigated by your Bureau, so that I might have some definite proof as to my complete innocence.

On September 26th, I am to have a trial by American Legion officials and I am asking some action on this matter.

Here are the only organizations I have ever participated in:

3 Times on Republican ticket for Supervisor

Exhaulted Ruler of Elks-5 years

Member-20 years

Knights of Pythians

" 27 "

Chancellor Commander-3 years

Mason-Blue Lodge

" 25 "

Consistory

" 5 "

Prelate-1 year

Shrine

" 1 "

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Director U.S.O. Board

Member-2 Years

Community Fund Drive

" 2 "

Vice-President N.A.A.C.P.

" 1 "

Organiser of Tisdell Post }
Charter Member }

Adjutant

" 4 "

Commander ('35-'36... '45-'46... '46-'47)

Commander Elect ('47-'48)

Member Mt. Zion Baptist Church

Chairman of Trustee Board

" 3 "

Vice-Chairman North Side Community Center

Innerguard State Association-Elks (Elected for 1 year)

Chairman of Civil Liberties-Elks

Big Brother(Under Judge Vonocan)

I feel there has been a great miscarriage of justice here,
and my and Roy B. Tisdell Post #537's only salvation lies in your investi-
gation which will clear my name in the eyes of the public and will once
again open our Legion home.

Respectfully,

Clifford A. Hazelwood
Clifford A. Hazelwood
COMMANDER OF ROY B. TISDELL
POST #537

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May 12, 1947

Mr. Wm. C. Mundt-Adjt.
Department of Illinois
Bloomington, Illinois

Dear Comrade:

Enclosed are the particulars in the Robeson case in Peoria, Illinois, of which Roy B. Tisdell Post #537 had no part.

But due to the action of five men on the Executive Board it was involved in the matter, without the sanction of the Post.

I was questioned because of my holding an executive position in another organization, the W.A.A.C.P. I wish this matter to be called to the attention of the National Commander, that I might be exonerated or acquitted and no longer accused of being a "red", because of my defense of democracy.

Tisdell Post had no part in this matter and the question is:

Do I have a right to belong to other organizations and remain Commander of this post?

I await your early reply.

Respectfully,
ROY B. TISDELL POST #537

C.A. Hazelwood
COMMANDER

P.S. Please cancel the other order for 1,500 poppies.

CAH/1

The above is a true and exact copy, drawn by me DOROTHY A. MITCHELL, a Notary Public in the City of Peoria, County of Peoria, State of Illinois. My commission expires May 13, 1950.

SEAL

Dorothy A. Mitchell Notary Public

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A True and Exact copy of the Resolution drawn by Mr. Phillips
for five members of the Executive Board of Roy B. Tisdell Post No. 537.

April 26, 1947

1. WHEREAS, the Commander of Roy B. Tisdell Post No. 537,
The American Legion has within the past few days supported, encouraged
and aided an advocate and sympathizer of Communism, and

WHEREAS, this action by the Commander of this Post was without
the approval of said Post and is directly contrary to the principles of
Americanism as advocated by The American Legion, NOW THEREFORE

2. BE IT RESOLVED by the Executive Committee of Roy B. Tisdell
Post No. 537, The American Legion, that we disapprove, repudiate and
condemn all such action by the Commander of this Post as not representing
the beliefs of this Committee and the principles of this Post, and

3. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we reaffirm our vigorous
opposition to Communism and all other subversive doctrines and to their
advocates their supporters and sympathizers.

This is taken from the original copy of the resolution drawn by Mr.
Phillips for members of the Executive Board of Roy B. Tisdell Post #537...
made by me, DONOTHY A. MITCHELL, a Notary Public in and for the County
of DEORIA, State of ILLINOIS. My commission expires May 13, 1950.

Donoth A. Mitchell (SEAL)
Sept. 6, 1947

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STATE OF ILLINOIS,)
) SS.
COUNTY OF PEORIA. }

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I, CURTIS CAVITT, a member of ROY B. TISDELL POST # 237,
AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS, and a member of the EXECUTIVE
BOARD;

Do hereby swear and depose that I was at the home of one
DR. E. P. BOULDIN on the night of APRIL 26th A.D., when one CARL E. PHILLIPS,
drew this said resolution and submitted it to the five men present for their
approval.

Curtis Cavitt
SIGNED

STATE OF ILLINOIS,)
) SS.
COUNTY OF PEORIA. }

Personally appeared before me, DOROTHY A. MITCHELL, a Notary
Public in and for the said County aforesaid, CURTIS CAVITT, who acknowledged
that he has read the above and foregoing instrument and has signed it with
full knowledge of its contents and purport.

Dorothy A. Mitchell 281
NOTARY PUBLIC

DATE-SEPTEMBER 6, 1947

THE PEOPLE'S SIDE OF THE ROBESON INCIDENT

A gifted Negro artist, Paul Robeson, one of the greatest singers of our age, came to Peoria. But the people of Peoria were denied the right to hear him sing. Paul Robeson is not only a great singer, he is also a fine warm cultured personality. A big man in body, mind and soul.

At college, Paul Robeson was an honor student and an All-American end on the Rutgers football team. As singer and actor he has had outstanding success on the stage, screen and radio. He is a well-traveled man who sings in many languages. Because of his ability to sing the songs and reach the hearts of the common man all over the world, he has earned the titles of "Citizen of the World" and "Singer of People's Songs". This man has sung in the biggest auditoriums around the globe. He has put his great talents at the service of his own people and of the toilers. So he has sung to soldiers at the battle front and to workers in their union halls and on the picket lines. Perhaps that is why the powers that be would allow Paul Robeson no place in Peoria to sing his golden songs, except the small living room of a worker's home.

WHY?

WHY?

WHY?

Citizens of Peoria, we must ask: WHY were we denied the right to hear Paul Robeson sing?

WHY was a great American artist denied civil rights and civil courtesy in our city?

WHO organized the Hitler-like campaign of terrorism against this noted representative of the Negro people?

What vested interests were able to turn our Mayor and other city authorities into spineless jellyfish, using their law enforcement powers not to protect Paul Robeson from threats of violence, but to collaborate with the lawless elements who made the threats?

WHO, behind the scenes, decided that we were not intelligent enough to judge for ourselves the merits of Mr. Robeson's offerings.

THESE ARE THE FACTS

Paul Robeson was engaged to sing at the Shrine Mosque on Friday, April 18, 1947. His concert was arranged by Allen Cannon, part time music instructor at Bradley College. It was one of a series of concerts promoted for the sake of profit and to bring noted singers and choruses to Peoria. Previous concerts had received good publicity and are reported to have been very successful and profitable.

But from the first announcements of the Robeson concert there were rumblings of opposition, coming in the main from people connected with and influenced by some of Peoria's big industries. A kill-with-silence policy of press and radio was combined with a whispering campaign to limit the sale of tickets. Up to a few days before the concert this was apparently considered adequate to guar-

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antee a failure. It was then that a group of Peoria citizens, aware of the insidious use of race prejudice, red baiting and anti-labor propaganda being used to limit the sale of tickets, undertook to popularize the concert and to guarantee its success. We wanted to see Paul Robeson in the flesh and hear him sing.

But the sponsor, admittedly worried about losing his job and accompanied by the wife of a Caterpillar public relations director, went to Champaign where they talked Mr. Robeson's manager into cancelling the concert.

It was also on Tuesday, April 15th, that Gomer Bath, columnist for the Peoria Star, wrote his first vicious column attacking Mr. Robeson as a Communist or fellow traveler.

And on the same Tuesday, significantly enough, Milo Nelson, 1st Ward Alderman, introduced a resolution to the City Council with the avowed intention of barring Paul Robeson from public appearance in Peoria. Alderman Nelson's resolution and prepared remarks used the same smear technique as the above mentioned Star columnist and many people are wondering WHO wrote the resolution for the 1st Ward Alderman. Without discussion or debate the resolution was railroaded through. The next day when people started to call their Alderman, these city fathers began to wonder what had been put over on them.

On Wednesday, April 16th, we who issue this statement, met together as a Citizen's Committee to preserve Civil Liberties and Rights in Peoria. We recognized that the unconstitutional means and threats of violence being used to bar Mr. Robeson from public appearance must be challenged. There are few progressive independent thinking people who have not been branded "red" at some time or other since Hitler developed this technique to destroy democracy and bring Nazi-fascism to a large part of Europe. Anti-Communism using smear campaign and lawless threats of violence can destroy all our democratic rights - and that is fascism.

After this meeting, three people went to Champaign where Mr. Robeson had sung to an overflow audience to the University of Illinois campus. They urged him to come to Peoria and help maintain democratic American traditions by fighting for his civil rights.

All public meeting places were barred by insidious pressure. Various churches, both Negro and white, were contacted, but because of the hysteria of threats, of race violence, intimidation and other coercive measures, coming from the City administration, the ministers and officers of these churches were intimidated and refuse use of their facilities to Robeson. However, we find that now the air is cleared, the Peoria Ministerial Association at its regular meeting, expressed their disapproval through a resolution, against the action taken of Robeson appearing in Peoria.

On Thursday, April 17th, 11 members of this committee met with Mayor Triebel, demanding that space in the City Hall - traditionally open to all groups of citizens - be granted for us to welcome Paul Robeson. The Mayor finally agreed, if concurrence could be secured from a majority of the City Council. When con-

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tacted, a majority of the same alderman who had been stampeded at the City Council meeting, reversed themselves in favor of permitting a City Hall reception for Mr. Robeson on Friday, the day he had been scheduled to appear at the Shrine Mosque.

The forces of repression went to work Thursday night and Friday morning. Violence against Robeson and the Negro people was threatened. Our wavering Mayor, lacking courage to enforce civil rights as he is sworn to do, went back on his promise to this committee. Could it be that the Mayor agreed with the sentiments of those who expressed intention of violence? Be that as it may, instead of enforcing the law against those who threatened violence, he read the so-called Riot Act against those who were being threatened with unlawful attack. A meeting in City Hall or anywhere else was banned.

Despite threats of violence, insults and slander, Paul Robeson came to Peoria. The people were denied a place to meet him and hear him sing. He was refused time on radio station WMBD, the only Peoria radio outlet in the evening. Hundreds of people who hoped he might appear at the City Hall, were gathered there on Friday night. They were given a full exhibition of the police reserves, called out by Mayor Triebel - not to uphold the law, but to make sure that the lawful rights of free speech and free assemblage would not be exercised.

In the living room of Ajay Martin, a Caterpillar worker now serving as a union official, a few people were fortunate enough to meet Mr. Robeson. There he sang a couple of the songs which have delighted great audiences in all the free parts of the world. There he was interviewed by the press.

Paul Robeson own words are the best description of what he found in Peoria: "I've been all over the world" he said, "and the only times I have seen hysteria reach these heights was in Spain under Franco and in Germany under Hitler - this is a sure sign that Fascism is around the corner in our Country".

He promised to return saying "I personally will return again, and there will be others too. This most flagrant violation of civil rights will not go unchallenged."

THIS BLOT MUST BE WIPED FROM THE RECORD OF PEORIA.

We ask all fair-minded citizens to get in touch by phone, letter or personal visit - with their alderman and the Mayor, demanding that the resolution adopted by the City Council on April 15th be rescinded as unconstitutional and contrary to American democracy.

We urge all organization of the people - unions, veterans posts, civic groups, etc., to pass resolutions both to the City Council and to press and radio condemning their actions which provoked the atmosphere of terror against Mr. Robeson and the Negro people.

We suggest that veterans and other citizens remind American Legion Post #2 that when their members lend themselves to campaigns of violence against civil rights, they endanger the very liberties in our country for which they fought abroad.

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To trade unionists we call attention that Paul Robeson has always supported organized labor. But those who fought his appearance in Peoria are the same people who - fascist-like - would destroy labor's right to free organization and free collective bargaining.

To restore the fair name of our city, we must do everything in our power to secure the return of Paul Robeson to Peoria for a public appearance at the earliest possible date. This must be done to convince the world that Peoria is still part of a democratic America.

* * * * *

It is too bad that we have to go outside of our city for a progressive and rational editorial concerning the Robeson case. But that being the case, we hearwith reprint parts of an editorial from the Chicago Sun of Sunday, April 20th.

EFFECTS OF THE WITCH HUNT

It was bound to happen. If Paul Robeson had not been prevented from singing in Peoria, he probably would have been banned some place else. Peoria in proscribing a concert because of the singer's political views, was only reflecting the hysteria of the hysteria of the witch hunt that is sweeping the nation.

After all, there is not too great a distance between "stopping Communism" by arming right-wing governments all over the world, and "stopping Communism" by silencing a great singer. Once you subject government employees to the kind of "loyalty" test which casts suspicion on every person who ever harbored a progressive thought, it is easy to demand that artists present a certificate of intellectual decontamination, something like the Aryanization license Hitler used to require, before being allowed to perform.

When dissent is regarded as disloyalty, when the non-conformist thought is considered a subversive thought, then it follows that treason will be suspected in a singer's voice, and betrayal in an artistic performance.

* * * * *

We think it is time for the people of Peoria and the people of America to come to their senses. The universal red hunt is a vicious thing not because of what it may do to the hunted, but because of what it does to the hunters. Just as Hitlerism degraded the German People, so this mad preoccupation with a Red "menace" can only impair the American people's self-respect, their intellectual integrity, their confidence in the truly boundless strength of democracy, their dignity as freemen.

What kind of citizenship is it that judges every man's actions by secret speculation on his place in the political spectrum. What kind of Americanism is it that weighs men not by their worth but by their political convictions? What kind of democracy is it that

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assesses those convictions not by whether they are right or wrong, but by whether they are "Communist"?

The problem is one for the whole nation, not progressives alone. Somehow we must convince ourselves that it is neither expedient nor democratic to try to "stop Communism" by backing Fascism suppressing free speech, establishing thought control, or banning Paul Robeson's voice.

289

SAC, New York

July 23, 1947

Director, FBI

PAUL ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

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EX-34

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68 AUG 23 1947

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TRANSLATION FROM THE SPANISH

TEN THOUSAND PERSONS HEAR ROBESON LAST NIGHT

Some ten thousand people were in attendance last night at the National Stadium to hear the famous North American baritone, Paul Robeson, whose visit to the Isthmus has caused much comment since it has been said that his trip is connected with Communist propaganda. Here the exponent of the colored race appears shaking hands with President Jimenez at the close of the concert, Don Arcadio Aguilera, General Secretary of the President, also being present. In spite of predictions the concert was free from any Communist or union propaganda.

Translated by:

6/5/47

jas

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EX-74

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[Signature]

Diez mil personas oyeron a Robeson anoche



Unas diez mil personas se dieron cita anoche en el Estadio Nacional para escuchar al famoso baritono norteamericano Paul Robeson, cuya visita al Istmo ha sido muy comentada, pues se decia que el viaje estaba relacionado con la propaganda comunista. Aquí aparece el exponente de la raza de color estrechando la mano del Presidente Jiménez al terminar el concierto, pudiendo verse allí también al Secretario General de la Presidencia, don Arcadio Aguilera. No obstante las predicciones el concierto estuvo libre de toda propaganda comunista o sindicalista.

Canal Officials Conspicuous By Absence at Paul Robeson Recital

An audience of about 10,000 people headed by President Enrique Jiménez and members of his Cabinet, last night heard Paul Robeson, world-famous American Negro baritone, who appeared in Panama's Olympic Stadium.

Conspicuously absent from the performance sponsored by the CIO-United Public Workers were Canal Zone officials, many of whom received complimentary tickets.

Robeson's program began with old European ballads, then included a group of the classics: "Lord God of Abraham" from "Elijah" by Mendelssohn and two Moussorskys selections, an excerpt from "Boris Godounoff" and "After the Battle."

Here his program was interrupted by a shout from the audience calling for "Ol' Man River."

Robeson graciously interrupted his scheduled selections to sing the popular favorite and after a thunderous applause repeated the same song.

His third group of presentations were Negro folk songs some of which his accompanist,

Lawrence Brown, sang with him.

Most popular with the audience were Robeson's encores. They included "Water Boy," "Deep River," "Scandalize My Name," "No Matter What You Say, I Still Suit Me," "Let My People Go," and "The House I Live In."

To close his program, Robeson recited the dying soliloquy of Othello, the play in which he aroused the enthusiasm of London in 1930 and in which he played for two years in the United States in New York and on the road.

Carlos Grant, a Canal Zone violinist, played during the second intermission of Robeson's program at the request of the artist because of his interest in young musicians.

The expected "propaganda" which was to come with Robeson's appearance under CIO sponsorship was included but not by speech-making.

His selections, particularly "After the Battle," "Water Boy," and "The House I Live In," represented his plea for peace and equality of human rights.

PANAMA-AMERICAN, May 28th. 1947

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FROM

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ENCLOSURE

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May 7, 1947

PAUL ROBESON

G. I. R. - 8

Background:

Who's Who for 1946 and 1947, has the following biographical data concerning Robeson:

He is a concert singer and an actor. He was born at Princeton, New Jersey, on April 9, 1898, the son of William Drew Robeson and Anna Louisa (Bustill). He received his A. B. degree at Rutgers College in 1919, and LL.B. from Columbia University in 1923, an honorary L.H.D. at Hamilton College in 1940, an honorary M.A. at Rutgers University in 1932, an honorary L.H.D. at Moorehouse College, 1943, and an honorary doctor's degree in humane letters at Howard University in 1945. He married Eslanda Cardoza Goode on August 17, 1921. He has one son, Paul Robeson, Jr. From 1923 until the present time he has appeared in numerous stage plays. He is a member of the Phi Beta Kappa, the Alpha Phi Alpha and Sigma Tau Delta fraternities. Robeson was a four-letter man while at Rutgers University and was picked by Walter Camp on his All-American football team as an end. His home is in Enfield, Connecticut. He gives his New York address as, in care of Robert Rockmore, 10 East 40th Street, New York, New York.

The Current Biography for 1941, on page 717, has the following to say concerning Robeson:

"The racial problem is one that Robeson has studied thoroughly. It was racial discrimination as much as his own acting ability that caused him to give up his career as a lawyer. He sent his son to school in the USSR because he thought the boy could grow up normally there.....He frequently speaks out on political issues in which he feels his race is deeply involved. In the summer of 1940, he was opposing conscription, speaking for peace, later urging all Negroes in industry to join the United Automobile Workers of America in their Ford organizing drive, even later speaking and singing at benefits to aid Britain, China and the Soviet Union. He was called a radical."

Activities in Connection with Various Communist Front Organizations:

The November 4, 1937, issue of the Daily Worker, alleged official publication of the Communist Party, carried an article in which Robeson was quoted as saying, "When I step on to a stage in the future, I go on as a representative of the working class. I work with a consciousness of that in my mind."

100-12304-7, pg 12

The Daily Worker of May 16, 1939, on page 1, printed out that Robeson in an interview had stated that there was no discrimination in Soviet circles and that his son, who attended school in Russia, received a cultural advantage there.

100-12304-7, pg 12

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The People's World, alleged publication of the Communist Party West Coast, in its issue of December 26, 1941, said that Robeson the featured speaker before a "Defend America Rally" held in Los Angeles, California on December 25, 1941. There were approximately 1,000 Negroes present. The rally was sponsored by the National Negro Congress among other groups. Robeson in his speech contrasted his experience in Nazi Germany in 1934, when he was menaced by Hitler's Storm Troopers with the reception he received in Russia. He said that in the USSR he found a complete absence of racial discrimination of any form which inspired him to send his son there to be educated. He urged unity of action on the part of all allies to defeat Hitler. 100-12304-17

The Sunday Worker of March 22, 1942, on page 2, section 2, and in column 1, there appeared the following comment made by Robeson "..... There can be no more honest evidence of a sincere desire to defeat Fascism along with the sending of tanks and if possible aid to the Soviet Union than by the freeing of Earl Browder so that he may take his rightful place in the vanguard of the cohorts against Fascism." 100-12304-3

A mass rally "Salute to Our Russian Ally" was held November 8, 1942, in the Madison Square Garden, New York. Robeson was introduced by the master of ceremonies by saying that "the next voice to be heard is the voice of the anti-Fascist". The spotlights were turned on Robeson and he said, "I am an anti-Fascist. I am an American. I am a Negro." He then proceeded to read out loud a letter written by a twenty-seven year old Red Army soldier, who said that he was "continually marching westward to freedom." Robeson added that the soldier was "my friend and yours". He said every place he appeared in the United States and had mentioned friendship with Russia and had sung the "Red Army song", the audience had literally "broken it up". 100-12304-7

The People's Voice, Harlem newspaper, for January 23, 1943, carried an advertisement urging the release of Professor Morris U. Schappes, alleged Communist of the City College of New York, who had been convicted of perjury. Robeson is quoted in this advertisement as saying, "I want to be identified in every way with this movement..... to free Morris Schappes..... This responsibility is the first charge upon all of us to fight Fascism for freedom." 100-12304-31, pg 2

The Michigan Chronicle of February 6, 1943, reported an interview with Robeson in which he stated that there was no racial discrimination in Russia. He said the people there learned to love and work for their government because it belonged to them. He justified sending his son to Russia so he "could feel freedom". 100-12304-9

On April 6, 1943, it was reported that a pamphlet of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, Incorporated listed Robeson as a sponsor.

Conf. Informant N New York City Office; 100-12304-31

The Daily Worker of July 4, 1943, on page 1, in column 3, show the subject's picture along with that of Lieutenant Colonel Itzik Feffe, and Moscow, Russia, City Councilman, Solomon Michaels, whom Robeson had welcomed to New York City at a reception held at the Soviet Consulate in New York City.

The Daily Worker of July 8, 1943, listed Robeson as a singer at a mass meeting to be held on that day at the Polo grounds in New York City honoring the two above mentioned Russians. 100-12304-31, pg 3

The Daily Worker of October 7, 1943, on page 3, indicates that Robeson supported Benjamin Davis on the Communist Party ticket for the position of Councilman on the New York City Council at the "Davis for Victory Show" held at the Golden Gate Ballroom in Harlem, New York City.

100-12304-31 pg 6

The Daily Worker of March 17, 1944, reported a speech made by Robeson at the Sun Yat-Sen tribute meeting at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York City, March 12, 1944. Robeson is quoted as having said, "The picture of China's internal conflict as the Kowmintang against the Chinese Communists is as false as Martin Dies' picture of his committee defending Congress and the Government against the American Communists." The subject said that China was fighting Fascism with one arm tied inasmuch as the Communist led Eighth Route and the new Fourth Army were not allowed to cooperate with the regular Chinese Army.

100-12304-31, pg 7

The April 5, 1944, issue of the Daily Worker said that tickets for the birthday party of the subject to be held on April 16, 1944, at the Armory, 34th Street and Park Avenue, New York would be on sale at the Communist Political Association Bookshop and the Council on African Affairs, 23 West 26th Street, New York City, for \$1 to \$3 each.

100-12304-31

The Daily Worker of April 13, 1944, reflects an interview had with Robeson by Louise Mitchell. In this interview he is quoted as saying, "his birthday party was really to be a Council on African Affairs Party." He is quoted again as having said, "The post war peace and prosperity rest on the constructive solutions of the problems of oppressed people everywhere." He said that the United States and Great Britain have realized that Mexico and South America want to be free, so, too, they will have to realize that 160 million Africans want equality.

100-12304-31, pg 7

The Daily Worker of April 16, 1944, in an article written by Samuel Putman on the life of the subject quotes the subject in describing his first visit to the USSR as having said, "How can I describe my feelings upon crossing the Soviet border. All I can say is that the moment I came there I realized that I had found what I had been seeking all my life. It was a new planet -- a new constellation. It filled me with such happiness as I have never known in my life."

100-12304-3, pg 8.

The magazine section of The Worker of April 16, 1944, in a story on Robeson's life said that he was an honorary member of the NWU; State, County and Municipal Workers of America, a predecessor to the present United Public Workers of America; the ILWU; and also a member of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade. 100-12304-11

The Daily Worker of February 13, 1945, reports that Robeson spoke at a meeting of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, California at which time \$17,000 was raised. In his speech he is quoted as having said, "We are standing at the cross roads of history. Something is wrong when such Fascists as Hearst are allowed to mislead and misinform the American people. The American people do not entirely understand that we can have Fascism here unless we learn to use our productive resources for the benefit of all the people. We can't wait for Fascism to die out and the oppressed peoples of the world will not wait. We must understand that we have already entered a changed world. We must have those 60 million jobs that Wallace speaks of. We must clean out our own Fascists." 100-12304-31, pg 11

The Daily Worker of March 12, 1945, carried an article datelined in San Francisco on that same date in which Robeson is reported to have urged former President Roosevelt to end the deportation case against Harry Bridges. In his letter to the President, which was quoted, he said, "Harry Bridges has stood steadfastly against discrimination, steadfastly for equal treatment, and all this without regard to his own personal fortunes." 100-12304-31 pg 12

The Daily Worker of April 17, 1945, carried an article to the effect that the Council on African Affairs headed by him had submitted a memorandum to the delegates of the United Nations Conference in San Francisco, calling for the establishment of an International Colonial Commission in the proposed world organization. 100-12304-31, pg. 13

The Daily Worker of May 16, 1945, carried an article in which it was pointed out that Robeson was to appear on a program entitled "Salute to the GI's of the United Nations" to be held on May 31, 1945, under the auspices of the National Council of American Soviet Friendship. The Daily Worker of June 1, 1945, said that Robeson sang Red Army songs at this meeting, which was held in Madison Square Garden, New York City. 100-12304-40, pg 3

The Daily Worker of September 30, 1945, said that Robeson had acted as chairman of more than 1000 citizens in the Fine Arts field, who formed an organization known as the "Artists, Writers and Professional Division of the Ben J. Davis Non-Partisan Committee". The article quoted Robeson as having said, "His (Ben Davis) campaign belongs to the people, to all people — white and negro, gentile and Jew, cutting across all boundaries and non-partisan politics, our Ben in the City Council. That means we're in there". 100-12304-40, pg 7

The Daily Worker of October 20, 1945, carried an article entitled, "Robeson Lauds Ben Davis for his Faith in his People". The article, among other things, stated that Robeson praised the Soviet Union for its destruction of Fascism and its fight against discrimination. 100-12304-40, pg. 9

The October 25, 1945, edition of the Gazette at Montreal, Canada, carried an article in which Robeson is quoted as having said, "If I have any followers, they will have to take what I have to say along with songs." The article continued and pointed out that the "burden of his propaganda is the saga of free men the world over." Robeson is quoted as having said that his "political opinions are well known." He said that he had urged the election of Fred Rose, Communist member of the Canadian Parliament. Of Franco, he said that he should hang, even if he is now supported by the United States, Great Britain and Canada. 100-12304-Sub A

The Pittsburgh Courier of October 27, 1945, carried an article which pointed out that Robeson was the thirtieth recipient of the "Spingarn Medal" annual award for outstanding achievement, presented by the NAACP. In his acceptance speech before several hundred notables in the Biltmore Hotel in New York, he voiced a frank and pronounced preference for Soviet principles, economic, political and social. He said, "The Soviet Union can't help it as a Nation and people if it is in the main stream of change." He warned against the rebuilding of Fascism, restoration of monarchies, and restoration of their estates to collaborators. He pointed out that the Russians have shown what backward peoples can accomplish in one generation of endeavor. He said, "Full employment in Russia is a fact and not a myth and discrimination is non-existent." 100-12304-35

The Peoples Voice of November 10, 1945, carried an article in which Robeson answered his Fascist critics. It was pointed out that in response to criticism of him in the Montreal Gazette for including in his concert a talk against Franco, he said, "They will have to take what I have to say along with my songs". 100-12304-40, pg 10

The Daily Worker of November 22, 1945, reports that he delivered an address at the Madison Square Garden in New York City on November 11, 1945, sponsored by the National Council of American Soviet Friendship on occasion of the 12th anniversary of the United States Soviet diplomatic relations. He said one of the greatest achievements of the USSR in 28 years was the attempt of democracy regardless of race, creed, color or nationality. He said there are no minorities there; instead, everyone is equal.

100-12304-Sub A

The Daily Worker of January 10, 1946, carried an article in which it was pointed out that the subject, the Chairman of the Council on African Affairs, spoke at a meeting on January 7, 1946, at the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem for the purpose of raising relief funds for the people of Africa. 100-12304-40, pg 11.

The Seattle Star of February 12, 1946, reported an interview with Robeson in which he said his son, Paul, Jr., attended school in Russia from the 8th through the 13th year. He said, "My son is definitely the product of Soviet education". He continued and said, "I am well satisfied. The Russian standards are extremely high."

100-12304-38

The Daily Worker of March 5, 1946, listed Robeson among those acting as sponsors of a "National Mobilization in Washington" movement to be held April 5, through 7, 1946, to "Win the United States back to a genuine anti-Fascist foreign program."

100-12304-40, pg 11

The Peoples Voice of March 30, 1946, reported that Robeson spoke before a mass meeting at the Second Baptist Church in Los Angeles, California that day at a meeting sponsored jointly by a Council on African Affairs and the Peoples Daily World. Among other things, he called for aid and democratization for the colonial people of the world.

100-12304-Sub A

The Worker of September 1, 1946, said that the editors of New Masses had announced they would sponsor a production entitled, "Adventure Dramatic" at Carnegie Hall on September 22, 1946. Robeson reportedly would participate and combine his talents along with other artists in the stage production of "The Great Conspiracy Against Russia", by Albert Kahn and Michael Sayers.

100-12304-Sub A

The Peoples Voice of October 19, 1946, describes Robeson as Co-Chairman of the National Committee to Win the Peace, member of the Executive Committee of the Independent Citizens Committee of Arts, Sciences and Professions, Chairman of the Council on African Affairs, Chairman of the American Crusade to End Lynching. The same article reported that he was a witness before the Tenney Joint Legislative (California) Commission on Un-American Activities in Los Angeles, California on October 7, 1946. When asked if he thought Russia in 1917 was the ideal country in which to test Marxism, he said, "No, I think the best country to test the principles of Marxism might be the America of today. Russia in 1917 was too poor." He said he was not a Communist but that ".....as a Negro" he was "inevitably attracted to the Anti-Fascist Movement....."

100-12304-Sub A

In the New York Times of October 8, 1946, this same information was reported and he is quoted as having said that "regardless of Russia's totalitarian features, it was a country which had established equality of peoples of black, white and yellow and where a derogatory use of the word 'Jew' brought a jail sentence."

100-12304-Sub A

The Daily Worker of October 11, 1946, in reporting this same information quoted Robeson as having told Senator Tenney that the existence of his Committee was evidence of the fact that Fascism still lives. He was asked if he was a Communist. He replied that he characterized himself as an

anti-Fascist. He said that he was not a Communist, but that he would choose it over the Republicans, explaining that "in my association with Communist, throughout the World I have found them to be the first people to die, the first to sacrifice and the first to understand Fascism."

100-12304-Sub A
The Daily Worker of December 27, 1946, on page 5, said that he would be the principal speaker at a two-day conference to be held in Washington, D. C. on January 23, 1947, under the auspices of the American Crusade to End Lynching. 100-12304-Sub A

The Peoples Voice of February 1, 1947, on page two, carried an article in which it was stated that Robeson had told reporters in St. Louis, Missouri that he was leaving the theater and the concert stage for the next two years to "talk up and down the Nation against race hatred and prejudice." The article pointed out that Robeson marched at the head of a picket line with about 30 members of the St. Louis Civil Rights Congress in front of the American Theater in St. Louis, Missouri to protest its racial segregation practice. 100-12304-Sub A

The Los Angeles Times of March 17, 1947, pointed out that Robeson's concert at the Philharmonic Auditorium on the Saturday night before, followed the pattern of those set by him in recent years in that it was part recital and part political action. The article pointed out that from the remarks made by Robeson it was apparent that he had no intention of changing his routine. It added "Those who pay to hear his eloquent singing will also have to endure his politicking."

Hedda Hopper in her column "Looking at Hollywood" in the Los Angeles Times of March 20, 1947, said, "When Paul Robeson sang the Communist 'People's Battle Song' here and dedicated it to Gerhardt Eisler, some members of his audience walked out. Why one remained is beyond me. To sit idly listening to a man abusing the precious heritage of freedom given us by our Constitution in flaunting the preachings of our most dangerous enemy is inviting disaster. When such people as Robeson are attacked they scream 'persecution' and 'Fascism'—the obvious dodge that our Red brethren attempt when cornered by people whom they've goaded out of lethargy. Yet they believe it perfectly right that they be allowed to attack the very foundations of our country — simply because one of our principles provides freedom of speech."

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LA Times

3-17-47

Robeson Has Own Method

Paul Robeson's concert at Philharmonic Auditorium Saturday night followed the pattern of those set by the Negro bass in recent years, in that it was part recital and part political-action rally.

From the remarks made by Robeson it is evident that this brilliant musician has no intention of changing his routine. Those who pay to hear his eloquent singing will also have to endure his politticking.

Distorting 'Mikes'

This reviewer likes neither manifestoes nor mechanical contrivances as by-products of a musical recital. It is impossible to judge Robeson's voice today by the same critical yardstick with which one measures his confreres on the concert platform, for he uses microphones and amplifiers, thus falsifying volume and distorting intonation.

Robeson claims he does this to ease the strain on his voice, but the fact remains that he is the only major recitalist so to indulge himself. One result of this distortion is that his magnificent voice frequently sounds strainedly granular in passages sung at full volume, and that his very deep tones lack natural resonance.

Varied Successes

The most effective numbers of his program, from the standpoint of music and musician, were two works by Moussorgsky, the prayer from "Boris Godounoff" and "After the Battle." Deserving of great praise too, were Mendelssohn's "Love God of Abraham" from "Elijah" and the aria, "O Isis and Osiris" from Mozart's "The Magic Flute." Moving simplicity was evident in several of the spirituals, such as "My Curly Headed Baby," and in the arrangements of English ballads by Roger Quilter.

Robeson's accompaniment again the truly talented Florence Brown, whose vocal aid in several spirituals lent great value to the program.

SEEING RED

When Paul Robeson sang the Communist "People's Battle Song" here and dedicated it ship, were two works by Moussorgsky, the prayer from "Boris Godounoff" and "After the Battle." Deserving of great praise too, were Mendelssohn's "Love God of Abraham" from "Elijah" and the aria, "O Isis and Osiris" from Mozart's "The Magic Flute." Moving simplicity was evident in several of the spirituals, such as "My Curly Headed Baby," and in the arrangements of English ballads by Roger Quilter.

Hedda Hopper

LOOKING AT HOLLYWOOD

Los Angeles Times

THURS., MARCH 20, 1947—Part II

out. Why one remained is beyond me. To sit idly listening to a man abusing the precious heritage of freedom given us by our Constitution in flaunting the preachings of our most dangerous enemy is inviting disaster. When such people as Robeson are attacked they scream "persecution" and "Fascism"—the obvious dodge that our Red brethren attempt when cornered by people whom they've goaded out of lethargy. Yet they believe it perfectly right that they be allowed to attack the very foundations of our country—simply because one of our principles provides freedom of speech.

Bette Davis and Bill Sherry are remodeling one of the rooms in their new home to make a painter's studio for Bill.

Harry (Pop) Sherman's daughter Teddi is now a full-fledged writer at Enterprise.

GENE TIERNEY
SHANGHAI GES
FIRST DENNIS MORGAN "GOD IS MY G"

VIVIANE "CARN
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SAC, New York

July 23, 1947

Director, FBI

EX-60

PAUL ROBESON, with aliases
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

100-12304-81

For your information there is attached a photostatic copy of a communication which the Bureau has received from the State Department concerning the subject.

Enclosure
JEM:dbb

56228

Eaton

Lh

E.I.R.-9

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED

JUL 23 1947

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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DATE 11/2/80 BY SP-5 RSG/clm

60 AUG 20 1947

306

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET3

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- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☒ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) Department of State, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

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Bureau file 100-12304-81

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 X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
 X FOR THIS PAGE X
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: July 29, 1947

FROM : SAC, Boston

SUBJECT: PAUL ROBESON
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

The SAMUEL ADAMS SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL STUDIES, a Communist sponsored school in Boston, Mass., on Sunday evening, June 22, 1947, sponsored a concert given for the benefit of the school by PAUL ROBESON at Symphony Hall, Boston, Mass.

WILLIAM GAILMOR, Radio Commentator, also spoke at this meeting.

[REDACTED] the SAMUEL ADAMS SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL STUDIES [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] check, #1722, dated June 23, 1947, was made out to the Council on African Affairs, Inc., for \$1,250. [REDACTED] It is believed that that payment of \$1,250 represented a payment to PAUL ROBESON for his appearance. [REDACTED]

JFL/jas
100-20575

cc: (2) New York

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DATE 11/2/80 BY SP-5 RSG/KM

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

100-12304-82
FBI
13/15 JUL 31 1947

EX-53
[Signature]

81 AUG 7 1947

308

Wesley Williams
S.P. Autry

Randolph Williams

Ed. Jackson
Young

Watch these names...for these people in a forced meeting of the Executive Board of our Post, allowed themselves to be prostituted and intimidated into signing a resolution which they had no authority in writing.

Here is the story that ended in the signing of a resolution that was written by outsiders and designed to split the progressive forces that are fighting a battle for Negro rights.

On April, the 15th, Mr. Clifford Hazelwood, realizing the danger to all Peoria's Negroes, rose in defiance to the resolution passed by the City Council, that could indirectly keep all of the nation's progressives both Negro and white out of Peoria. He joined with a group of Peoria's liberals and progressives, both whites and Negroes, to see that Civil Rights for all people be returned to Peoria and that a corrupt resolution of the City Council be smitten from the official record of Peoria.

Thanking he would kick down, and lick their shoes, the Mayor first tried to brow beat him and he refused to be coerced. Even though he had entered the rights and individual and officer of the N.A.A.C.P., he understood that the powers that be were trying to break our ranks, he was threatened by a representative of American Legion Post No. 2, on the grounds of his Commandership of Tisdell Post, for the resolution stated "without the approval of said Post". This Post has an un-American rule that no Negro can become a member and yet they damn Hazelwood for principles "in direct contrary to the principles of Americanism as advocated by the American Legion."

Mr. Phillips, a city lawyer, who had the job of trying to intimidate and rule them, action of Tisdell Post, met with Mr. Hazelwood with the order that "your usefulness as Commander of Tisdell Post is no longer needed". (First they segregate us then they ~~xxxx~~ try to rule us) The thought that his opinion and those of his Post were being decided by an outsider, made Hazelwood angry and when he left, Mr. Phillips has been informed that the new Negro could not be treated as a servant who would jump as Mr. Phillips or any other white man wishes.

Unable to gain his wished, Mr. Phillips went to the people whose names we see at the top of this list and told them as though he were God, that if they did not call a meeting and get rid of Hazelwood, he would see that their charter was taken away. They had a secret meeting in the home of Mr. Bouldin and was intimidated into signing a resolution which Mr. Phillips and not they wrote.

This resolution was voted on by less than two-thirds majority of the Executive Board and so should not have been made part of the Post law. This action should not have been made public...leading the public to believe that this represented the thinking of the Post...thereby helping to split the progressive move to give the Negro people the rights they have so long fought for and deserved..without first being presented to and passed by the rank and file membership of the Post.

This move on the part of a few of the Negro population has already had repercussions...violent to the welfare of the Negroes of this city. Already the Mayor is using this as material to break the demands of the NAACP and deprive us of civil liberties. Since this drastic action, he told the NAACP that he no longer need listen to them for they did not represent the population. Because this is being used as a weapon against us we must pass a resolution condemning the action of these few men. We must send a resolution to the Mayor, City Council, Post No. NAACP, and the Peoria Ministerial Association, the press and the radio.

We must write to every Negro Post in the state, asking that they take action against this upheaval of rights in our city in order to help us regain our civil rights and liberties.

309

RESOLUTION

THE BILL OF RIGHTS MUST BE RESTORED IN PEORIA

- WHEREAS:** We, the officers and members of the Peoria Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, affiliated with the National Organization of the NAACP, with more than 1,500,000 members in America, protest against the action of the City Council and the Mayor of the City of Peoria in denying Paul Robeson, an American citizen, the civil right of public appearance in our city, and
- WHEREAS:** The action taken by Peoria's City Government suppressing the right of free speech, and the right of free assemblage in our city, has openly violated the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights, and
- WHEREAS:** The action taken by suppressing Civil Rights in our city has bestirred protests from the freedom loving people in all stations of life throughout America, bringing condemnation and shame upon our city, and
- WHEREAS:** Exercising the right of redress of grievance, we call to the attention of the City Aldermen and the Mayor that they were elected as servants of the people, and we remind them that they are not vested with the power or authority to legislate or rule against the United States Constitution or the Bill of Rights, which guarantees to all the people the right of free speech, free press, and free assemblage, free from coercion, intimidation or molestation, and
- WHEREAS:** The unconstitutional action which directly effected the public appearance of Paul Robeson in the City of Peoria is a glaring example of the depth of discrimination prevailing in our city, and
- WHEREAS:** to the best of our knowledge, not once since our City Government took this unconstitutional action against civil rights, has the Mayor or any of the City Aldermen publicly announced that they uphold the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights, and we call upon them now to make it definitely clear where they stand on our Constitutional rights, and
- WHEREAS:** The Peoria Ministerial Association must be praised and commended for the resolution it passed on Monday, April 21, 1947, in which it declared in effect that democracy and the right of free speech and assemblage must prevail in our city, NOW THEREFORE BE IT
- RESOLVED:** That the City Council of the City of Peoria, Illinois rescind the action taken by them on Tuesday, April 1, 1947, being unconstitutional and in violation of the civil rights of the people, AND BE IT FURTHER
- RESOLVED:** That the City Council publicly announce that the Peoria Ministerial Association has their full support in its request that Paul Robeson return to Peoria under its auspices, and that the City Council shall guarantee that any public meeting arranged by the Ministerial Association shall be adequately and properly protected against interference, coercion and intimidation, AND BE IT FINALLY
- RESOLVED:** That copies of these resolutions be forwarded to the Peoria City Council, the Mayor of the City of Peoria, the press, the radio, the National Organizations, of the N.A.A.C.P., the Peoria Ministerial Association and to such other persons or organizations as may be deemed necessary.

Raymond L. ... According Sec'y. Respectfully submitted:
Walter H. ... Walter H. ... Vice-Pres. *Alvin Martin* Alvin Martin, President

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242



AN EVENING OF MUSIC

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311

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Dans le Printemps de Mes Amours

...

Lord God of Abraham

Members...

"We are proud to have you back. Wish you
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Mazurka — <i>Andante</i> — G. Menotti, OP. 17	
March — <i>Allegretto</i> — G. Menotti, OP. 10, No. 12	

3. MR. ROBESON

William Tell Overture	
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Choral Chant	arr. by J. Engel

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Come on down
after the Concert!



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TEL. 71-0395

cc D. M. Ladd

September 15, 1947

The Attorney General

The Director, FBI

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42-100-12304-85

I am forwarding herewith photostatic copies of a communication together with its enclosures received from Mr. C. A. Hazelwood of Peoria, Illinois, and a communication received from Mr. Roy Wilkins of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, concerning the same subject matter.

In view of the nature of the inquiry, I have acknowledged these communications and advised their authors of the rigid policy of the Bureau in maintaining the information contained in its files on a confidential basis and that this information can only be released upon your specific direction. I have informed these individuals that their communications are being referred to you for your consideration and any action you may deem appropriate.

Attachment

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

SENT FROM D. O.

TIME 2:50 PM

DATE 9-16-47

BY [Signature]

HOB:mae

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63 SEP 18 1947 R-141

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

20 WEST 40TH STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

LONGACRE 3-6890

Official Organ: The Crisis



September
10,
1947

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Hoover:

In Mr. White's absence from the office we have been receiving considerable correspondence with reference to the so-called Robeson incident in Peoria, Illinois, last April.

Among the items received by us is a copy of a letter to you under date of September 6, 1947 from Mr. S. W. Hazelwood, 908 Third Avenue, Peoria, Illinois. Mr. Hazelwood was and is the vice-president of the Peoria chapter of NAACP.

We write to support Mr. Hazelwood's request that the FBI investigate his connection with this affair and go fully into the material he has submitted in refutation of the accusation that he is a communist or is active in supporting a communist ideology. We believe Mr. Hazelwood to be a valuable and active citizen of Peoria whose record in civic affairs is above reproach and we are especially interested in the misguided (or deliberate) attempt to use Mr. Hazelwood's connection with the NAACP to imply in some manner that this Association is engaged in spreading communistic ideology.

If it is possible for you to do so under

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CHECKED


100-12304-85

15 SEP 17 1947

EX-42

318
Casper

-2-


Peoria, Illinois

b7c
September 10, 1947

the general practice of the FBI, we should like to be advised of the action taken in this matter.

Very sincerely yours,



Roy Wilkins
Assistant Secretary

RW:es

2

319

September 15, 1947

Mr. C. A. Haselwood
908 Third Avenue
Peoria, Illinois

Dear Mr. Haselwood:

Robeson, Paul

This will acknowledge your letter dated September 12, 1947, together with its enclosures.

With regard to your request for information contained in this Bureau's files, I wish to advise that this Bureau is precluded by virtue of a rigid policy from disseminating information contained in its official files except to those official agencies authorized to receive such by the Attorney General. I regret, therefore, that I cannot be of further assistance to you. I am sure you will fully appreciate the necessity for such a policy.

I have, therefore, taken the liberty of referring your communication together with its enclosures to the Attorney General for his consideration and whatever action he may deem appropriate.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED 3

SEP 17 1947 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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INDEXED

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51 SEP 24 1947

100-12304-86

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DATE 11/21/80 BY SP5 RSE/

320

September 15, 1947

✓
Mr. Roy Wilkins
Assistant Secretary
National Association for the Advancement
of Colored People
20 West 40th Street
New York 18, New York

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/2/80 BY SP5 RJG/C

Robeson, Paul

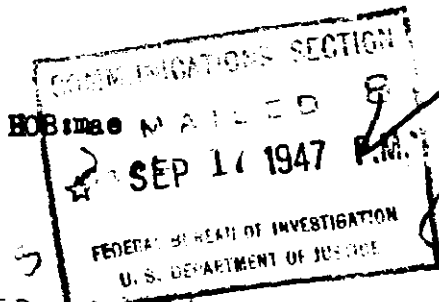
Dear Mr. Wilkins:

This will acknowledge your letter of September 10, 1947, wherein you referred to a letter dated September 6, 1947, which was addressed to this Bureau by Mr. C. A. Hazelwood, Peoria, Illinois.

In view of the nature of the allegations set out in Mr. Hazelwood's letter, I have taken the liberty of referring his communication together with yours to the Attorney General for his consideration and any further action he may deem appropriate.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy



John Edgar Hoover
Director

RECORDED

100-12304-87

EX-67

DEPT. OF JUSTICE

5 SEP 30 1947

276

321

DIRECTOR, FBI

September 12, 1947

SAC, SAN FRANCISCO

JOINT ANTI-FASCIST REFUGEE COMMITTEE
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Re New York teletype September 2, 1947, concerning appearance of
PAUL ROBESON in San Francisco and Los Angeles.

ROBESON's only public appearance in the San Francisco area was at the Oakland Auditorium Theater, September 7, at 3 PM. According to the Daily People's World, this appearance was for the benefit of the Spanish Refugee Appeal of the subject organization. ROBESON's appearance in the Bay area drew the usual publicity from the Daily People's World and some publicity from the San Francisco Chronicle and the San Francisco News, the latter two being legitimate daily newspapers. ROBESON is quoted in the Chronicle for September 9, 1947, as follows: "Spain today should be a danger signal to Americans that Fascist philosophy still exists."... "But there are many forces in the United States that feel Franco is not so bad."

The San Francisco News published ROBESON's picture along with that of ANTON REFREGIER, mural painter presently working at the Rincon Post Office in San Francisco. REFREGIER has been associated with Communist activities during his stay in San Francisco. The News quoted ROBESON as follows:

"Mr. HOOVER (former President HERBERT HOOVER) likes Franco but I don't."

At ROBESON's appearance at the Rincon Post Office, he was accompanied by representatives of the Spanish Refugee Appeal who sought publicity for refugees from the Spanish Government. ROBESON was further quoted:

"You should see those people. I've seen them. They haven't a chance to get on their feet economically speaking—well, some of them have, but you take MILTON WOLF, for example. He wasn't a Spaniard. He's an American, but he fought in Spain and Franco nearly beat his head in. He's back in New York now, but do you think he can get a job? And he can do almost everything. You just fight in Spain and then try and get a job over here. MILTON can't do it, and he's a newspaperman."

"And in the Latin-American countries and Mexico the refugees can't do anything. You can't imagine the pressure that can be brought, say, in Panama, not in the Canal Zone, but in the Republic of Panama—by the American Government. It is because of the American Government that the refugees can't get anywhere in Latin America."

"The American Government is supporting Franco. If they weren't, all those refugees could go home. And what

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100-12304-8

EX-65

Director, from SAC, San Francisco

September 12, 1947

RE: JOINT ANTI-FASCIST REFUGEE COMMITTEE
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

"do you think HOOVER's doing in Germany? He's looking for the remnants of I. G. Farben. He likes Farben. Mr. HOOVER likes Franco too, but I don't, and as long as we have this dangerous policy of supporting the remains of Fascism, people like me have to do something about it. If we didn't, I might be getting my head beaten in some day."

Informants also advised that the Spanish Refugee Appeal had a dinner at the California Theater Club, 1650 Post Street, San Francisco, honoring ROBESON.

No information has been received from informants or public sources indicating JAMES LUSTIG accompanied ROBESON to San Francisco.

WBR/jo
100-10486

cc New York

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: October 7, 1947

FROM : T. Vincent Quinn, Assistant Attorney General

TVQ:JBH:dtj

SUBJECT:

146-1-25-0

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Mumford	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

Reference is made to your unentitled memorandum to the Attorney General, dated September 15, 1947, forwarding photostatic copies of correspondence received from Mr. C. A. Hazelwood of Peoria, Illinois, and Mr. Roy Wilkins of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

I am enclosing herewith copies of my replies to these correspondents.

Paul Robinson

Enclosure
No. 279485

1-17

la
ENC
(1)

55 OCT 15 1947

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

100-12304-8

19 OCT 1947

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP5 RJB/clm

AW
Mc

324

TVQ:JBH:dtj

146-1-25-0

C
O
P
Y

October 7, 1947

Mr. Clifford A. Hazelwood
908 - 3rd Avenue
Peoria, Illinois

Dear Mr. Hazelwood:

The Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation has referred your letters of September 6 and 12, 1947, addressed to him, to me for reply.

With respect to your request for an investigation of yourself and of the charges made against you in connection with the proposed concert appearance of Mr. Paul Robeson at Peoria on April 18, 1947, neither the Federal Bureau of Investigation nor the Department is empowered to initiate investigations in the absence of some indication that a violation of federal law is involved. A careful examination of both of your letters fails to disclose facts which would constitute such an offense and, in the circumstances, I regret it is not possible to comply with your request.

You also seek information concerning Mr. Robeson's organizational affiliations. The Department's files, of course, are confidential and restricted to the servicing of government departments and agencies alone for official use. They cannot be made available to the public nor can any statement be made purporting to be predicated upon their contents. In this regard as well, therefore, I regret that I am unable to be of assistance to you.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/60 BY SP5 RSG/clm

T. VINCENT QUINN
Assistant Attorney General

325

C O P Y

TVQ:JBH:dtj

146-1-25-0

October 7, 1947

Mr. Roy Wilkins
Assistant Secretary
National Association for the
Advancement of Colored People
20 West 40th Street
New York 18, New York

Dear Mr. Wilkins:

The Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation has referred your letter of September 10, 1947, concerning Mr. C. A. Hazelwood of Peoria, Illinois, to my attention and has likewise forwarded copies of correspondence on the same subject addressed to him directly by Mr. Hazelwood.

Inasmuch as my reply to Mr. Hazelwood is also responsive to your own communication, I thought you would like to receive a copy, which is enclosed. I regret that, in the absence of any showing of a violation of federal law, neither the Bureau nor the Department is empowered to initiate an investigation of the character requested.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

T. VINCENT QUINN
Assistant Attorney General

Enclosure
No. 279483

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 RJG/cl

326

SAC, Honolulu

October 8, 1947

Director, FBI

PAUL ROBESON, with aliases
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Reurlet 4-24-47 and the Bulet 5-6-47 in the case entitled "Communist Party, USA, 13th District, Honolulu Field Division, Internal Security - C." You are requested to advise the Bureau if the subject actually arrived in Honolulu, and if so, the information which you secured from your informant concerning his activities while there.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
OCT 8 1947 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
OCT 21 1947

RECORDED

EX-78

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

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DATE 11/21/80 BY SP-5 RSC/MLM

327

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, Honolulu

SUBJECT: PAUL ROBESON, with aliases.
Internal Security - C.

DATE: October 18, 1947

Rebulet 10/8/47.

This is to advise that ROBESON did not visit the Territory of Hawaii as he was reported to have been considering, as indicated by Honolulu letter dated 4/24/47.

WFD:PB
97-10

RECORDED

100-12304-91
F B I

EX-45

37 OCT 21 1947

R12

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/2/18 BY SP5

RSG/cum

OCT 28 1947 286

328

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF CLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ TELETYPE

DATE 8/13/81

WASH FROM NEW YORK 24 13 8-50 P

DIRECTOR ROUTINE

CONF. INFT.

PAUL ROBESON, ISC. [REDACTED] ADVISES THAT SVEN [REDACTED] b1

CHAIRMAN OF GOTHENBURG SECTION OF SWEDISH CLARTE ORGANIZATION
LOCATED AT KLIPPGATAN TWENTYFOUR GOTHENBURG, SWEDEN IN LETTER TO DAILY
WORKER DATED SEPT. EIGHT ENCLOSED LETTER TO BE FORWARDED TO PAUL
ROBESON. LETTER TO DAILY WORKER SET OUT THAT IN VIEW OF SUBJECTS CON-
TEMPLATED TRIP TO OSLO AND COPENHAGEN, DANVIK WAS EXTENDING TO HIM
INVITATION TO ADDRESS STUDENTS AT GOTHENBURG.

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. [REDACTED]

END

PLS HOLD

NY R 24 WA

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP5 RJC/CLM/11-21-80 RECORDED
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2. 4-2-80
DATE OF REVIEW 11-21-90 OCT 30 1947

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/2/86 BY SP-5 RJC/CLM

100-12304-92

SAC, Washington

October 25, 1947

Director, FBI

PAUL ROBESON, was
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

RECORDED

100-12304-92

Information has been brought to the Bureau's attention that the subject contemplates making a trip to Oslo, Norway, and Copenhagen, Denmark, in the near future. In view of this you are requested to contact the State Department and ascertain if the subject has made any arrangements to secure a passport.

For your information the subject was born at Princeton, New Jersey, on April 9, 1898, the son of William R. Drew and Anna Louisa Bustil. He is married to Eslanda Cardoza Goode. His address is given as 10 East 40th Street, New York, N.Y., c/o Robert Bookmore.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

11/21/50

SE/5 RSEKUM

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JEL:aop MAILED 4
OCT 25 1947 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

52 NOV 13 1947, OS

OCT 25 3 40 PM '47
RECEIVED READING ROOM

CAS

gpc

330

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : GUY HOTTEL, SAC Washington Field

SUBJECT: PAUL ROBESON, was.;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

DATE: November 25, 1947

Reference is made to Bureau letter to Washington Field Office, dated October 25, 1947, instructing this office to contact the State Department to ascertain if any information is available concerning a contemplated trip of ROBESON to Norway and Denmark.

With regard to the above, Confidential Informant [redacted] produced files which reflect that PAUL ROBESON, born in Princeton, New Jersey on April 9, 1898, resides at 22 East 89th Street, New York City, c/o McGEE, and is a concert artist and actor by occupation. b1

ROBESON was last issued passport #58303 on May 8, 1947 to cover a one-month's concert trip to Panama, Cuba and Mexico. He intended to depart from Miami, Florida by air on May 24, 1947. In his passport application, ROBESON stated that he had resided in England from 1928 until 1939. The file also reveals that ROBESON availed himself of American passport #199094 on June 28, 1922 for travel in England to fulfill a theatrical engagement.

A subsequent passport was issued to ROBESON on October 10, 1927 for the same purpose, in France, Italy, Spain and Germany. Passport #1287 was issued on April 25, 1934 at the American Consulate in London, England. This passport was renewed in 1936 for the extended period to April 25, 1938.

ROBESON registered at the American Consulate in London, England on December 10, 1937, stating in his application for registration that he visited England, the Continent of Europe and the U.S.S.R. since 1928, pursuing his occupation as a concert artist. He also stated that he married ESLANDA GOODE ROBESON on August 17, 1921. His wife was born in Washington, D.C. on December 15, 1896 and they have a boy named PAUL ROBESON, JR., who was born in Brooklyn, New York on November 2, 1927. He stated that this son resides in Moscow, Russia.

Special service passport #1354 was issued ROBESON on July 28, 1945 for travel to entertain the Armed Forces. This was validated until July 31, 1946 for travel within European Theatre of Operations.

Inasmuch as the aforementioned passport, #58303, issued on

COPIES DESTROYED 5-1-59

JMG:hjr
100-19021~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

INDEXED

100-12304-93

F B I
21 NOV 26 1947

DEC 4 1947

EX 35

DATE OF REVIEW

11/21/80
SP-5 RSC/cum
11/21/90

5331

Letter to Director

November 25, 1947

May 8, 1947, is restricted to the Western Hemisphere, it will be necessary for ROBESON to have this passport revalidated before he can travel to Europe. The passport is good until May 8, 1949 and, were it not for the fact that it is restricted to the Western Hemisphere, he might utilize it for travel to any point in the world by merely obtaining a visa from the official representative of any particular country he wishes to visit.

The Department of State is being requested by separate letter to place a flash against the name of PAUL ROBESON for the purpose of advising the Washington Field Office in the event ROBESON attempts to revalidate his passport for travel in Europe.

In the event information is received to this effect from the State Department, the Bureau and New York Office will be immediately notified.

cc - New York

JMG:hjr
100-19021

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JAN 11 1948

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

WASH FROM NEW YORK 2 11 ~~403~~ 403 P
DIRECTOR URGENT

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF CLASS. PR

DATE 8/3/81

b1 PAUL ROBESON, ISC. REURTEL JAN TEN, FORTYEIGHT. [REDACTED]
ADVISES THAT [REDACTED] PLAN TO LEAVE VIA DELAWARE AND HUD-
SON DAY COACH ON MORNING OF JANUARY TWELVE. [REDACTED] WILL STAY AT HOME
b/c OF [REDACTED] IN MONTREAL. BUREAU HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY ADVISED THAT
RESERVATIONS WERE ORIGINALLY MADE FOR [REDACTED] AND ROBESON AT HOTEL
WINDSOR, MONTREAL. THERE IS NO INFO PRESENTLY AVAILABLE CONCERNING
ITINERARY OF SUBJECT ROBESON BUT BUREAU WILL BE IMMEDIATELY ADVISED
SHOULD SUCH INFO BE OBTAINED. THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT ROBESON
IS SCHEDULED TO PLAY IN AKRON, OHIO IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

END

NY R2 WA

SCHEIDT
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

RECORDED

EX-28

100-12304-94

JAN 14 1948

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 [REDACTED]
REASON-FGIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 11/21/90

52 FEB 3 1948

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

333

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JAN 11 1948

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
TELETYPE

Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

WASH 3 FROM NEW YORK 11

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES 7 55 PM REB
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF CLASS. PR

DIRECTOR URGENT

DATE 8/3/51

PAUL ROBESON, IS-C. REMYTEL THIS DATE.

ADVISED

TODAY THAT [REDACTED] INTENDS TO LEAVE NINE ONE FIVE A M VIA DAY COACH
JANUARY TWELVE. TRAIN ARRIVES MONTREAL SEVEN ONE FIVE P M.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

HANDLED BY
STOP DESK

SCHEIDT

111 21150

RECORDED

1-2-4-2
DATE OF REVIEW 11/2/90

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

END

NY R 3 WA

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-150

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JANUARY 12, 1948

Transmit the following message to:

EX-28

100-12304-95

CABLEGRAM — URGENT — CIPHER PAD CODE

INTERNAL SECURITY - R. REURTEL JANUARY TEN LAST. INFORMANTS ADVISE [REDACTED] WILL LEAVE NEW YORK NINE FIFTEEN A.M., EST, JANUARY TWELVE VIA DELAWARE AND HUDSON DAY COACH. TRAIN ARRIVES MONTREAL SEVEN FIFTEEN P.M. JANUARY TWELVE. [REDACTED] MAY STAY AT HOME OF [REDACTED] MONTREAL. INFORMATION PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED THAT [REDACTED] AND ROBESON HAD RESERVATIONS HOTEL WINDSOR, MONTREAL. NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON ITINERARY OF ROBESON BUT ROBESON IS SCHEDULED TO APPEAR IN AKRON, OHIO, IN NEAR FUTURE.

cc - Foreign Liaison Desk

LJH:am

Enc - (A) 1555-1657
et al.

ser. 473

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RSC/km
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 11/14/10

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

52 FEB 3 1948

SENT VIA Cable 1-12-48 1:09 PM

Per [Signature]

JAN 12 9 56 AM '48
RECEIVED READING ROOM

33

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET2

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- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(1) with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

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To protect information which is currently and properly
classified pursuant to Executive Order 12065.

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Bureau file 100-12304-96

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 X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
 X FOR THIS PAGE X
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336

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

31550

JAN 14 1948

TELETYPE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

WASH FROM NEW YORK 18 14 4-59 P

DIRECTOR URGENT

PAUL ROBESON, WAS, ISC. REBUTEL TO NY, JAN TEN, FORTYEIGHT. [REDACTED] 61

[REDACTED] ADVISES SUBJ LEFT NY FOR MONTREAL EVENING OF JAN THIRTEEN FORTYEIGHT. ITINERARY NOT KNOWN.

SCHEIDT

RECORDED

100-12304-97

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JAN 21 1948

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP5 RSK/MLW
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 11/21/90

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OTHERWISE

337

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-150

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

JANUARY 16, 1948

31548 17

Transmit the following message to:

100-12304-97

[REDACTED]

b7D
b1

PAUL ROBESON, WAS, IS-C. REMYTEL DATED JANUARY TWELVE, FORTY-EIGHT, ENTITLED
[REDACTED] INTERNAL SECURITY - R. FOR YOUR INFORMATION PAUL ROBESON LEFT
NEW YORK FOR MONTREAL ON THE EVENING OF JANUARY THIRTEEN, FORTY-EIGHT. HIS
ITINERARY AFTER ARRIVAL IN MONTREAL IS UNKNOWN.

b7c

FM:ICS

[Handwritten signature]

Ex # 479

RECEIVED
JAN 16 5 55 PM '48
ENCLOSURE

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RSC/CTM
REASON: FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW: 11/21/90

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

EAG

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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

JAN 16 5 49 PM '48
JAN 17 1-17-48

Per

RECEIVED
JAN 17 9 26 AM '48
33

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.



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336

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.



Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.



Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

Above

Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

To protect information which is currently & properly
Classified pursuant to Executive Order 12065.



For your information: _____



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Bureau File 100-12304-99

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 X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
 X FOR THIS PAGE X
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341

SAC, New York

31551

February 13, 1948

Director, FBI

PAUL ROBESON, with aliases
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RECORDED

100-12304-99

EX-93

Enclosure

JEM:hls

11/21/80
CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5 RSG/clm
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 11/21/95

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) ON
DATE 2/11/51

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FEB 14 12 30 PM '48

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
★ FEB 14 1948 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MAR 2 1948

256

341

F.B.I. RADIOGRAM

31535

DECODED COPY

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

FROM HONOLULU
DIRECTOR
URGENT

3-3-48

NR 032020

4:39 PM EST

PAUL ROBESON, WITH ALIASES, INTERNAL SECURITY - C. RE
HONOLULU LETTER APRIL 24, 1947 ENTITLED COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
13TH DISTRICT, HONOLULU DIVISION, INTERNAL SECURITY - C
(HONOLULU FILE 97-10) AND BUREAU LETTER SAME CAPTION DATED:
MAY 6, 1947. - APPARENTLY RELIABLE INFORMATION REFLECTS
ROBESON TO ARRIVE HONOLULU MARCH 10, 1948 FOR SINGING AND
LECTURE TOUR UNDER ILWU SPONSORSHIP. UNLESS ADVISED TO
CONTRARY COVERAGE WILL BE AS OUTLINED IN BUREAU LETTER OF
MAY 6, 1947.

RECEIVED:

3-3-48

5:09 PM EST

MET

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 11/21/60 BY SP5 RSG/CLM

RECORDED

EX-58

100-12304-100
MAR 5 1948

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated
outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in
order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

62 MAR 10 1948